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NEWSWATCH

Akrawi quits

BAGHDAD, May 15, (KUNA): An Iraqi republican decree today relieved State Minister Hashem Hassan Akrawi at his own request. Iraqi News Agency reported.

Border ban on food

See page 7

Boat expected back

KUWAIT, May 15, (AP): A Kuwaiti Coast Guard gunboat which disappeared while chasing a vessel carrying infiltrators last week is currently in Iraqi territorial waters, security sources said today.

Organ trafficking

GENEVA, May 15, (AP): The annual assembly of the World Health Organisation today called for a global ban on commercial trafficking in human organs for transplantation.

Envoy recalled

NICOSIA, May 15, (Reuters): Iran said today it had recalled its ambassador from the Netherlands and accused the Dutch government of taking an anti-Islamic position in the Salman Rushdie row.

Copter crash

MOMBASA, May 15, (AP): Eight British seamen were killed and another was missing in the crash of a naval Lynx helicopter about 16 kilometres (10 miles) north of this Indian Ocean port, officials said today.

No danger

H-bomb crushed

TOKYO, May 15, (AP): A US hydrogen bomb was crushed by sea pressure when it fell into the Pacific Ocean 24 years ago and its nuclear material has dissolved harmlessly on the sea floor, the United States has told Japan.

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○ سندھ میں فوج نہ بلانی
○ جائے ہتزل اسلمیک
○ گورنر ایف جین کے
○ تاریخی دورے پر

Marriage contracts certified

By Sayed Othman
THE Ministry of Justice has categorically denied a report appearing in a local newspaper that the ministry is refusing to authenticate marriage contracts of expatriates where the husband's salary is less than KD450 per month.

OIC meeting on haj

Iran rejects invitation

RIYADH, May 15, (AP): The already strained relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran appeared worsening today with Iran rejecting an invitation to a meeting of Islamic affairs ministers hosted by the kingdom, diplomats reported.



Gorbachev (centre) reviews the guard of honour with Yang Shangkun (left) during welcoming ceremonies at the airport. (Reuters wirephoto)

End rift: Gorbachev

Students' march disrupts China visit

BELJING, May 15, (AP): Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, on the first day of a historic visit disrupted by student demonstrations, declared today an end to the Sino-Soviet split and said the Kremlin had been partly to blame for three decades of bad feeling.

Aquino ally to go on trial in US

Prayers for Marcos

HONOLULU, May 15, (AP): US immigration officials stood and prayed for Ferdinand Marcos to be allowed to return to the Philippines, a videotape shows.

But when Psnakis came back to the US on July 5, 1987 on a business trip he was jailed. Aquino issued a statement last week hailing Psnakis' "tremendous contribution" to the restoration of democracy to the Philippines.

ARAB TIMES EXCLUSIVE



Ahmed Al Jarallah (right) with Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman.

Bahrain to ease visa regulations

Protect GCC establishments: Sheikh Khalifa

By Ahmed Al Jarallah
Editor-in-Chief, Arab Times

BAHRAIN has decided to ease visa regulations to make the island state a major centre for tourism in the Gulf.

Syria is invincible in Lebanon: Khaddam

LONDON, May 15, (Agencies): Syrian Vice-President Abdel Halim Khaddam in an interview published today said his country could not be defeated in Lebanon.

Morocco 'misled'

Disposing toxic waste

LONDON, May 15, (KUNA): A "secret" plan by a British-backed consortium to build the largest toxic waste disposal plant in the world in Morocco's section of the Sahara has been revealed here today by a British newspaper.

Sinhalese rebels kill 12 Indian soldiers

COLOMBO, May 15, (Reuters): A leftwing Sinhalese rebel group said today it had killed 12 soldiers, including a major, in eastern Sri Lanka in its first attack on Indian troops.

Syria to restore ties with Egypt

KUWAIT, May 15, (KUNA): Syria will resume diplomatic relations with Egypt immediately after the extraordinary Arab summit in Casablanca, Morocco.

Scrounging is a way of life for some children

NEW DELHI, May 15, (AP): Twelve-year-old Shashi Bhusan Das starts work each day at dawn looking for value in what others have thrown away.

Shashi is one of the tens of thousands of children in New Delhi who scrounge through garbage bins, gutters and waste dumps to earn a daily living from the items and bits of items they collect.

Garbage dealers buy the paper, plastic shopping bags, steel parts of automobiles and pieces of brass and tin. Paper and plastic are reprocessed; metal is melted for recasting.

The street children, known as ragpickers, start their daily trudge around 5 am and work in pairs until noon, when they eat their first meal of the day.

A private survey published by Praveen Nangia, a social scientist and expert on child labour, said 80 per cent of these children live alone and sleep on sidewalks in the summer and in government-run shelters during the winter.

By the time these children, who are aged between five and 15, reach the junk dealer, their sacks weigh nearly 10 to 15 kilograms (22 to 33 pounds), the survey said.

Rajiv and opposition clash over power plan

NEW DELHI, May 15, (Reuters): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi clashed with the opposition today over a controversial plan to devolve power to India's 500,000 villages.

In a bitter debate in parliament's lower house, opposition members charged Rajiv with using the plan to capture votes in the general elections due by the end of the year.

Rajiv in turn accused the opposition of joining with powerbrokers to prevent the panchayats or village councils from gaining a limited autonomy from state governments.

Introducing a bill to amend the constitution to reform the village council system, Rajiv said the present structure of government ensured people had to seek middlemen with the right connections to intervene in even minute municipal matters.

"To end the role of power-brokers in the system, the bill provides for the direct selection of members to panchayats," he said.

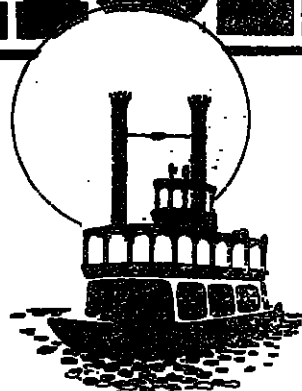
Under the proposed legislation, there will be elections to panchayats every five years. State governments will have to ensure some panchayat seats are reserved for outcaste members of the country's predominant Hindu religion.

The outcastes or harijans — among the poorest of rural Indians — are supporters of Rajiv's Congress (I) Party.

A further 30 per cent of panchayat seats will be reserved for women, who are a special target of the Congress Party's election strategy.

The governments of the 25 states will also be made to give panchayats a part of their power to levy and collect taxes.

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Student's death Korean protest march

SEOUL, May 15, (AP): Thousands of people marched in the southern city of Kwangju today to protest the death of a dissident student, rejecting laboratory tests that indicated he died by drowning.

Witnesses said about 10,000 demonstrators marched past lines of riot police guarding government offices in Kwangju, a provincial capital about 280 kilometres (168 miles) southwest of Seoul.

Riot troops armed with shields and truncheons watched, but did not block the march protesting the death of Lee Chol-Kyu, 24, whose body was found last Wednesday in a reservoir near Kwangju, they said.

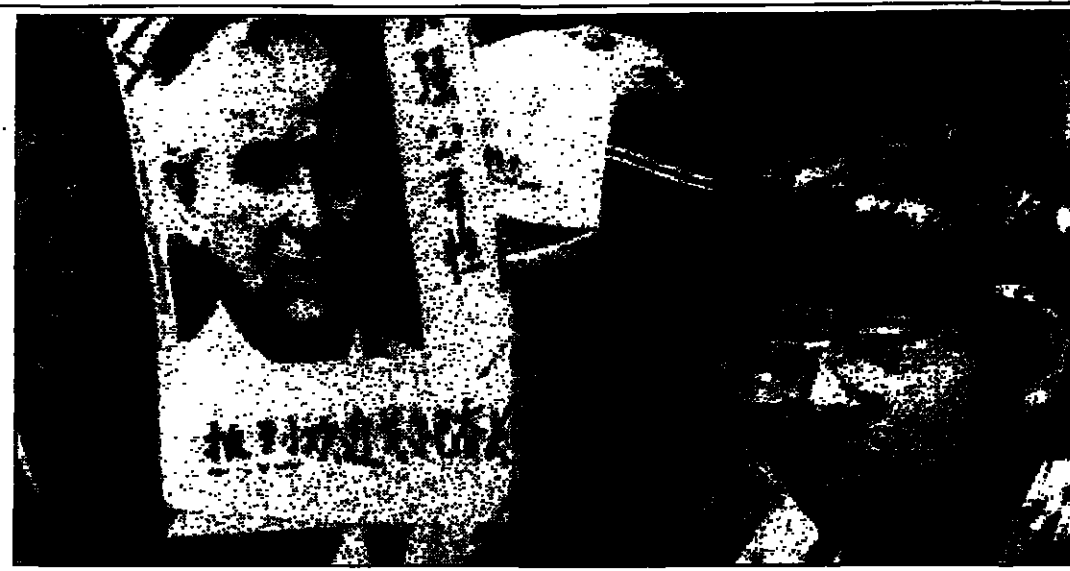
Dissidents claim that police had tortured and killed Lee, and that authorities were covering it up by distorting pathological tests.

Doctors reported yesterday finding "a lot of plankton" in Lee's intestines.

"The findings indisputably indicate that the student died by drowning," said Yoon Jong-Jin, director of the National Institute of Scientific Investigation.

Yoon said independent medical college professors and opposition lawmakers witnessed the tests to ensure credibility. Doctors also have said an autopsy showed no sign of torture.

Hundreds of posters rejecting the test results were put on notice boards on buildings in Kwangju today, news reports said. Many ordinary Kwangju citizens showed scepticism about the tests, the posters said.



Student protesters in Tiananmen Square hold a portrait of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev as they listen to speeches by their comrades. The sign welcomes Gorbachev to Beijing. (Reuters wirephoto)

End rift, calls Gorbachev

(Continued from Page 1)

police lines and spilled out on to the six-lane street in front of the Forbidden City.

Gorbachev's meeting with Yang was delayed almost two hours because of the change in the welcoming ceremony site to Beijing's old airport. The two presidents met in the Great Hall, but it was unclear whether Gorbachev saw the demonstrators outside.

Later, in a welcoming banquet in the Great Hall, Yang noted that "Sino-Soviet relations traversed a tortuous course in the past. Today, we have to a new

starting point."

Gorbachev, in a statement issued upon his arrival, said the spring season and its feelings of renewal and hope were "consonant with our mood. We hope that the meetings and talks we are going to have with the Chinese leaders will mark a watershed in relations."

Officials met today with more than 50 students, but strike leaders camped in the central Beijing Square said the students who participated did not represent them.

Yan Mingfu, a member of the ruling Communist Party Central

Committee secretariat, said at the meeting that the month-old student movement was "good and patriotic."

China has banned the book "Sexual Customs," which it said "wantonly blasphemes Islam," the New China News Agency, Xinhua, reported.

One-third of Hong Kong citizens are considering leaving the British colony before China resumes sovereignty in 1997, reflecting a loss of confidence in Beijing's promises for the future, a public opinion poll showed today.

Germans have 'special weight', claims Genscher

BONN, May 15, (AP): Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher claimed today that West Germany's opposition must carry a special weight in the decision on whether to upgrade NATO short-range missiles.

In an interview with Radio Luxembourg, Genscher pressed his campaign for the soonest convening of a superpower disarmament forum aimed at reducing short-range missiles based in Europe.

Most of the NATO short-range rockets are based in West Germany and Bonn officials have called for postponement of the upgrade project as well as for the new round of talks.

Genscher said that along with the Americans, West Germans make the largest contribution to NATO defences "and therefore it is perfectly normal for the West German government's view to carry a corresponding weight in the matter."

The United States and Britain want full alliance

support for the short-range upgrade project known as "modernisation" to be shown during the NATO summit in Brussels May 29-30.

But West Germany has been holding firm to its position that the superpowers should be working to reduce the weapons before moving to upgrade them, and the short-range issue now threatens to dominate the meeting in two weeks of the 16 NATO nation leaders.

The Refreshment Trading Company, Kuwait



The first company in the Gulf to begin bottling Coca-Cola in refundable bottles.

A large fleet began yesterday, Monday May 15, distributing Coca-Cola in refundable bottles to all areas of Kuwait.

Coca-Cola sales in the world are 600 million bottles a day and that's why it is first in the world.

Wael Al Nasif: A distinguished service for a distinguished drink.

The Refreshment Trading Company held a press conference yesterday on the occasion of launching Coca-Cola in refundable bottles after a lapse of 21 years. The conference was attended by the general manager of the company, Wael Al Nasif, a number of administrators and newsmen.

Al Nasif briefed the newsmen about Coca-Cola International Co. and its sales over the world. He said that it tops soft drinks in the world, as it sells over 600 million bottles daily. The figure is based on a study that proved the distinction of Coca-Cola as a true international soft drink, characterised by its great taste and the fact that other world bottling companies have been trying to attain Coca-Cola standards.

In the Kuwait market, 70% of various soft drinks sold are in the form of refundable bottles, while the remaining 30% are sold in other non-refundable forms. Refundable bottles are being manufactured in Kuwait and thus reach the customers with their distinguished fresh taste. Glass bottles do not affect the taste of the drinks inside it, while imported metal cans do.

Coca-Cola drinks are the best in the world. They contribute to more than one third of all



soft drinks sales in the world. Coca-Cola had acquired over 55% of Kuwait's market after 1950, mainly because of its special taste. Now, Coca-Cola is back again in Kuwait after a lapse of 21 years, to regain its old position at the top of the soft drinks market. All products carrying the Coca-Cola trade mark are thoroughly examined and checked, especially the Coca drink. The parent company in USA has the ability to make it the best in the world.

Leading specialists carried out detailed studies and reached the conclusion that Coca-Cola is the best in the world. Its company in Kuwait, supported by its able former administration and excellent new equipment, is determined to make it the best of all soft drinks in Kuwait. Many consumers have been asking when would they see the best soft drink being bottled in Kuwait. Now, supported by the confidence of consumers worldwide in general and consumers in Kuwait in particular, Coca-Cola is again being distributed to all houses, groceries and markets in the new 250ml returnable bottles.

Consumers will notice that the new Coca-Cola cases are different. They have been specially manufactured to ensure full protection for the bottles, prevent any extra pressure on the bottles besides protecting them from the heat of the sun — thus preserving their original taste. Although the new case is more costly than the ordinary one, the need to protect users was the main objective of the company. For that purpose Coca-Cola wants to win the satisfaction of its consumers, even if it costs more. This added advantage will easily be felt by the consumers. We are now in the market in a special and attractive way and will continue to work for our customers.

Meanwhile, the company will shortly introduce the Cola Diet, the Orange Fanta and the Lemon Sprite. The company requests co-operation from the public. We call upon all to report to the company about any difficulties or obstacles they face in getting their Coca-Cola. The company will take the necessary measures to ensure everything goes right.

Lloyd Webber musical purrs into record books

LONDON, May 15, (AP): "Cats" has purred its way into the record books, playing its 3,358th performance to become London's longest-running musical.

Based on a collection of humorous poems by T.S. Eliot, Andrew Lloyd Webber's show seemed an unlikely candidate for longevity when it opened at the 1,106-seat New London Theatre

eight years ago.

But the reviews were fine, the show still sells out, and "Cats" has changed the fortunes of the British musical this decade.

The previous record-holder on the West End, London's Broadway, was Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's "Jesus Christ Superstar," which played 3,357 performances during the 1970s.

"Cats" gave song-and-dance shape to Skimbleshanks, Macavity, the Rum Tum Tugger and other famous felines from Eliot's 1939 children's book, "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats."

"We had no idea it was going to take off globally in the way that it did," producer Cameron Mackintosh said. "The fact is the show has taken on its own life."

Capitalised originally at £450,000 (then \$945,000), "Cats" has grossed \$52 million (about \$88 million) at current values and been seen by more than four million people in London since opening May 11, 1981.

The New York production, budgeted at just under \$5 million, won seven 1983 Tony awards and launched a British musical invasion of Broad-

way that came to an abrupt halt last year with the back-to-back flops of "Chess" and "Cats." Only the recent bow of "Aspects of Love," one of four Lloyd Webber musicals now on in London, looks set to resume the westward flow.

"Cats" has grossed \$500 million worldwide in 13 countries, including the Soviet Union, and is currently play-

ing in New York, Paris, Budapest, Vienna, Hamburg, Adelaide, Helsinki, Toronto and Nagoya.

It has made millionaires and superstars of Lloyd Webber, Mackintosh, and director Trevor Nunn, who interrupted an esteemed career in classical theatre to stage the musicals "Starlight Express," "Chess," "Les Misérables," and "Aspects of Love."

Literary legend And quiet flow days of Graham Greene

ANTIBES, France, May 15, (Reuters): Nearly every morning around 11 o'clock a tall, slightly stooping, elderly man stops to buy an English newspaper from a tiny shop nestled under the 17th-century wall in Antibes on the French Riviera.

He slowly crosses the narrow street to the restaurant opposite and sits down, anonymous.

The man is Graham Greene, but few people recognise the famous novelist.

The author of "The Power and the Glory" and "The Third Man" is something of a legend and an enigma the world over, but in this sunny Mediterranean town he is simply "Monsieur Greene."

He is at ease here. The local people know him well, and respect his desire to be left alone.

When he is not travelling the globe — he was in Britain this week and was photographed together with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega at a meeting in London — "home" is in Antibes, which served as the setting for "May We Borrow Your Husband" and other short stories.

Graham Greene, 84, started coming here in the 1950s.

In the restaurant "Chez Felix" near the Old Sea Gate, they are proud to tell you he has been having lunch here, when at home, nearly every day for 36 years.

Habits

The waiter is the husband of his housekeeper. Monsieur Greene is part of the family. Nearby, in the cheerful covered market next to the Chateau Grimaldi, housing the Picasso Museum, stall-holders talk of the tall, slim gentleman who comes regularly to buy fruit and vegetables.

"I usually see him on Saturday mornings," said a lady selling freshly-cooked beetroot. "I haven't seen him for a while. He's not getting any younger. I hope he's all right."

Like other who spoke about him, she used the French word "gentil" to describe him. It conveys more warmth than the English translation "nice."

Greene's habits in Antibes are well-established, and a break in them, unless they knew he was away, would make his friends anxious.

He moves easily. But age has taken its revenge on his hands, which are twisted with arthritis.

Every morning he walks to the old part of town from his flat on its outskirts. It takes nearly ten minutes, the footpaths are uneven, but the exercise is also a discipline.

After buying his copy of "The Times," he sits down to read at his favourite table in the restaurant, whose walls are covered in old-fashioned varnished wood. Bright posters by local artists are reflected in a large mirror. Homely dark red cloths cover the tables.

Ordinary

The dishes are typical of the region, generous and simply presented. Greene has a small appetite — the result of a stomach operation some years ago.

After lunch he returns to his flat for a siesta. He lives on the fourth floor of a six-storeyed grey concrete building near the port. An ordinary building in an ordinary street, crowded with cars. His name is on the entrance phone, though few disturb him.

He is determined to guard his right to privacy and refuses interviews with journalists. However, on rare occasions he has been known to open his door to visitors.

They have found him courteous and ready to chat.

From his large uncluttered desk in the sitting-room, the writer can see over the masts of the luxury yachts to the famous square fortress of the Fort Vauban.

Bay windows lead on to a wide balcony. Ample-filled bookshelves line half the walls. Paintings, gifts from artist friends, reflect his interest in modern art.

Not long ago a friend, at his request, took him to meet the abstract painter Hans Hartung, his exact contemporary, who lives nearby. "An extraordinary meeting of two huge talents," was how the friend described the occasion.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

NEW YORK: Child Welfare officials were investigating a New York City woman whose pet wolf mauled her son before it was beaten to death by her boyfriend, police said.

Three-year-old Timothy Bajinski was listed in critical condition Sunday at Staten Island Hospital with lesions to his head and scalp, according to a hospital spokeswoman, Arlene Ryback. He underwent surgery Saturday evening. (AP)

MEXICO CITY: A man accused of helping drug cult leader Adolfo de Jesus Constantino avoid arrest has been released on bond, the government news agency Notimex said.

Jose Enrique Calzada, charged with the covering up a crime, was freed on \$2,500 bond, the agency quoted Cesar Garza, secretary of the fifth federal penal court, as saying Sunday.

Calzada is accused of helping Constantino, 26, obtain a cabin near Mexico City and a downtown apartment. Notimex said. He also changed American dollars that a friend of his, Maria del Rocio Cuevas Guerra, gave the cult leader while he was fleeing, the agency said.

At his arraignment, Calzada pleaded innocent to the charges. Officials have said privately they do not believe he was deeply involved in the case.

Ms Cuevas Guerra faces similar charges. According to court records, Constantino called her asking for money when he and three others fled from south Texas to Mexico City after the first of 15 bodies were discovered April 11 on a ranch near the border.

She gave him \$2,000, found them places to stay and was trying to obtain false identification for them, according to testimony.

Sara Maria Aldrete, described as the "priestess" of the cult, has testified they moved from one apartment or house to another every few days while on the run in the Mexico City area.

Constantino and his closest associate, Martin Quintana, were killed by another member of the group when police closed in on the apartment where they were staying, according to testimony.

Rather than be arrested, he handed Alvarez de Leon Valdez a machine-gun and ordered him to shoot them.

Ms Aldrete, De Leon Valdez and Omar Francisco Orea, who were arrested at the apartment, were arraigned Friday on murder and other local charges in connection with the deaths of Quintana and Constantino. (AP)

OTTAWA: Eight explorers trying to draw attention to worldwide pollution reached the North Pole on foot on Sunday just as bad weather settled in over the Arctic, an expedition spokesman said.

"They're just verifying their position by satellite," said Wendy White, a spokeswoman for the icewalk expedition. "They think they're at the pole."

Poor visibility and drifting ice has hampered the explorers, who travelled more than 1,000 kms (620 miles) from Ellesmere Island, in northern Canada, White said in Ottawa.

Organisers said bad weather had prevented an helicopter from landing to pick up the team, which embarked on its trip March 20. (AP)

THOUSAND OAKS, California: Rock star David Bowie apparently now believes in modern love. He has gotten engaged to Melissa Harley, the lead dancer in his 1987 Glass Spider Concert tour.

Miss Harley's parents, Gordon and Joyce Harley of suburban Los Angeles, said Wednesday that Bowie, 42, proposed to their 22-year-old daughter Tuesday during a European vacation.

No wedding date has been set.

Miss Harley, who danced three years on the television series Fame, met Bowie when she became the lead dancer in his nine-month international Glass Spider tour. Many of her routines called for her to act out the part of Bowie's romantic interest in his songs.

That became a real-life role halfway through the tour. (AP)

PARIS: Mayor Jacques Chirac has unveiled the city's newest monument — a golden flame of liberty that has symbolised enduring French-American friendship.

The flame, made of hammered brass covered with 5,000 gold leaves, is a duplicate of the one that shines over New York harbour on the Statue of Liberty.

The monument stands at the Place de l'Alma in the city's fashionable 16th District, where the Eiffel Tower crosses the Seine River serving as a backdrop.

"This is an important event in the old, fraternal ties between France and the United States," Chirac said Wednesday at the unveiling ceremony. "The monument is a symbol of two qualities: liberty and international friendship."

The Paris-based International Herald Tribune newspaper, part of the celebration of its centennial in 1987, sponsored a worldwide fund-raising appeal to bring the flame to Paris.

The monument was built in the United States by Les Metalliers Champenois, the same group of French artisans who worked on the recent rehabilitation of the Liberty statue. The Paris flame was cast using the same molds for that project. (AP)

KRISTIANSDAND, Norway: A dozen baby boa constrictors were stolen from a zoo, and police believe they probably were freed in the countryside.

The potential giant tropical snakes would have little chance of surviving.

The 19 king boas were hatched April 18 at Dyreparken zoo in southern Norway and were stolen last week.

Gunnar Vang, of the Kristiansand police, said there was no trace of the snakes or suspects. (AP)

BRIDGEPORT, Connecticut: Best-selling author Robert L. Moore Jr., who wrote "The Green Berets" and "The French Connection," has been sentenced to five years' probation for his part in defrauding the government of \$5 million through the sale of illegal literary tax shelters.

Moore, 63, who used the pen name Robin Moore, was given a five-year suspended sentence Wednesday and ordered to pay a \$500 fine and complete 500 hours of community service. (AP)

NEW YORK: The third annual Marilyn E. Segal awards have been presented to 23 members of the Broadway musical Sarafina and to Andrea Gruber, a soprano in the Metropolitan opera's young artists development programme.

The award, given to young artists at the Lincoln Centre for the performing arts, was established in 1986 in honour of Segal, who retired that year as chairman of Lincoln Centre.

The Lincoln Centre Theatre, which produced Sarafina, will receive \$4,000 to distribute to the 23 cast members honoured. Gruber, 23, who will make

her Metropolitan opera debut in "Gotterdammerung," was also awarded \$4,000.

Gruber also will sing with the Chicago Symphony, with the Royal Scottish Opera as Leonora in La Forza del Destino and with the Cologne opera as Amelia in Simon Boccanegra.

The cast of Sarafina consists of singers and dancers, ages 17 to 22. Two are Americans and 21 are from South Africa. "Sarafina" opened at Lincoln Centre in September 1987. The awards are to be used for further study and career advancement. (AP)

BALTIMORE, Maryland: Theresa Baroody and Dorothy O'Malley are used to their own reproductive coincidence. It has been 30 years since the sisters discovered they each had given birth to their fifth child on the same day.

But now that the children themselves are doing it, it is beginning to seem weird.



Nielsen: fun
Critics criticised Nielsen: tall and feminine

HOLLYWOOD, May 15, (UPI): Brigitte Nielsen is a favourite target of movie and TV critics who take glee in penning her performances, sending the statuesque actress laughing all the way to the bank.

When reviewers strayed her most recent TV appearance in "Murder by Moonlight," she shrugged and said, "Wow, did they do a number on me or what?"

"I don't care," she said. "People tuned in to see it and that's all that counts."

Nielsen, 24, hopes they won't be as rough on her performance in the new movie "Bye Bye Baby," in which she gets top billing over Carol Alt and Italian leading man Luca Laurenti.

She refuses to take show business as seriously as do the critics. To her, last month's film or last year's film is just last month's film or last year's film.

She and fiancé Mark Gastman, the New York Jets star, walked into Le Dome restaurant (her favourite) on Sunset Boulevard looking like the New York Times Centre, dwarfing everything and everyone in the place.

At six-foot-five (1.95 m), Gastman appeared only marginally taller than Nielsen, but she was wearing heels. They were happy and light-hearted about her being pregnant.

"We hope to be married soon," she said.

"Within the next month or so," he said.

Nielsen's role in "Bye Bye Baby" is altogether different from the Amazon parts she played in such films as "Red Sonja."

"In this movie I play an emotional woman, a totally down-to-earth girl," she said. "She's more real. Not a gratuitous part like I've done before."

"Her passion is playing pool. She's a pool shark. That happens to be my hobby. Mark and I have a pool table at home and we play all the time, sometimes until 3 in the morning."

"I'm really good at it. I can even beat Mark."

Only, Gastman said, when she runs the table before he has a chance to play.

The exchange led to friendly bickering over who was the better player.

Nielsen returned to the subject of her film, saying, "It's a very simple romantic comedy. It was released first in Europe, where it was well received, and now they are releasing it in this country."

"It's fun playing a more feminine part. I can identify more with a woman of passion and emotion than with a cartoon character. Who knows what a cartoon feels?"

"A tall woman can be just as feminine as a petite woman. If they gave me a script that called for a cuddly woman, I could do that too. Being cuddly has nothing to do with size."

"People think of me as feminine and sophisticated. Not feminine and cute. However, I feel cute ninety times when I am at home, when my hair is down, when I wear no makeup and I feel like being a silly little girl."

"It's all in your mind and heart. Short women can be mean and uncuddly, you know," she said, laughing again.

Ms Baroody and Ms O'Malley each got a grandchild on Monday the offspring of the coincidental cousins they brought into the world on Feb. 23, 1959.

Family members say the 30-year-old cousins, Patricia and Patrick, never had trouble remembering to send each other birthday cards, but were not particularly close as children.

summer that their fifth children were both expecting their first babies in May.

"I fell off my chair," Ms Baroody said. (AP)

LONDON: Protestors won a last-minute reprieve Monday to protect the historic remains of the Rose playhouse, which once premiered plays by William Shakespeare, from being buried beneath a modern office building.

More than 30 protestors who spent the night at the excavation blocked trucks that arrived at 6 am (0500 GMT) to dump sand on the 402-year-old site in Southwark, Central London.

Leading Shakespearean actor Ian McKellen said: "For a building contractor to be in charge of something which should clearly be named as a national monument is something that we have to watch very carefully indeed."

Mike Hobbs, spokesman for Imry Merchant Developers, said: "There will be a lull in disputes. Some form of stay of execution."

Protestors said the theatre would be damaged even if developers covered it with sand because the new building's foundations would be driven through the remains.

The Rose, built in 1587, has been excavated by the Museum of London since January. (UPI)

LOS ANGELES: When Judy Davis was growing up in Australia, she thought it would be fun to be an actress, although hard to make a living at it.

After receiving Academy Award and television Emmy nominations and winning two British Academy Awards, the star of such films as "A Passage to India" and "My Brilliant Career" has found the opposite to be true.

"I thought it was easy, that you got a part and did it," said Miss Davis, currently making her US stage debut in Tom Stoppard's intellectual thriller "Hapgood" in Hollywood. "I didn't realize there would be all this agony."

"I think the emotional commitment's pretty hard, to take on someone else's emotional journey or turmoil, to take it inside you and put yourself through it," she said. Perhaps, she said, that's why actors sometimes seem temperamental to outsiders.

"Actors are very vulnerable creatures," she said. "You have to keep the child alive in you, alive and well." (AP)

LOS ANGELES: Boris Feldman and his bride Jean, believe love is timeless and ageless.

Timeless because their courtship lasted only two weeks. Ageless because both are octogenarians.

Feldman, 80, and his 81-year-old wife were living separate lives at Victory Village, one of two retirement communities operated by the Jewish homes for the aging of greater Los Angeles. They met in the dining room in March.

"We just started talking to each other. I did like her. I figured she was just about the size I wanted — not too tall and not too fat," Feldman said.

"He was just a nice person to talk to," his wife said. "That's all I was looking for."

On their first and second dates, they attended Victory Village dances, just "old-fashioned waltzes," Feldman explained, because "my legs are not as fit as they used to be." Their courtship lasted two weeks and they were married March 26.

They still have not had an argument. "We don't have any money to fight for," Feldman quipped. (AP)

ANNAPOLIS, Maryland: Director Barry Levinson says Dustin Hoffman was terrific to work with, despite warnings he had received to the contrary.

Levinson, who won a best director Oscar for Rain Man, said Hoffman and his wife went to the hospital with Levinson and his wife when she gave birth during filming in Cincinnati.

"It caused a lot of commotion in the hospital," he said.

"A lot of friends of mine said it would be tough working with Hoffman, but that wasn't the case. Levinson said. "He was terrific to work with."

Even though Rain Man won him an Oscar, Levinson said Diner is probably his personal favourite "because it was the first one" and because he was able to write it, direct it and then film it in Baltimore, where he grew up. The director said he hopes to begin filming a new movie in Baltimore this summer. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: Academy award-winning actor Gene Hackman is suing makers of the film Hoosiers and a video distributor for \$5.5 million he says is owed him.

In the lawsuit, filed Tuesday, Hackman claimed his is owed one-third of a \$15-million advance royalty allegedly paid by video distributor Home Box Office to Hemdale Film Corp. The suit contends HBO and Hemdale cheated Hackman by denying there was such a payment.

Paul Mackee, director of business affairs at Hemdale, said Wednesday the film company had not seen the suit would have no comment.

"We have not received any notice of that lawsuit. We have not been served," said HBO lawyer Horace Collins, refusing to comment further.

Hackman's 1971 role as relentless cop Popeye Doyle in The French Connection earned him a Best Actor Oscar.

Hoosiers stars Hackman as a down-on-his-luck basketball coach who leads a rural Indiana High School team to the state championship. (AP)

LONDON: Stewart Perowne, a British diplomat, traveller, archaeologist and historian who lived 18 books on the history and antiquities of the Mediterranean world, died in London's Charing Cross Hospital on May 10 at age 87. Death Notices said Monday.

Perowne is survived by his widow, Dame Freya Stark, who made her name with vivid travel books about the Middle East Arab countries.

Perowne, son of an Anglican bishop, was educated at Harvard and Cambridge universities and went first to Palestine under the British mandate to serve in the educational service in 1927. He later served in Malta, Aden, Iraq, Barbados, Libya and in Israel, where he designed and organized West Bank village communities for refugees. (AP)

PARIS: Italian designer Gianfranco Ferré will replace Marc Bohan as artistic director for the House of Dior.

The burly, bearded architect-turned-fashion designer will show his first collection for the French fashion house in July, Christian Dior director Beatrice Boussac told a news conference Thursday.

Ferré will be responsible for designing haute couture clothes and furs as well as luxury ready-to-wear clothes and furs for Dior.



Royal salute

Flanked by a sabre-carrying member of the Blues and Royals (right) and a Life Guard, the Princess of Wales takes the salute during Sunday's march past by former members of Britain's Cavalry regiments in the annual Combined Cavalry Old Comrades' Parade in London. In April the Princess was made Colonel-in-Chief of the 13th and 18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own), the 270-year-old cavalry regiment noted for the engagements at Waterloo, the Relief of Ladysmith, the Charge of the Light Brigade and D-Day in 1944. (Reuters wirephoto)

Women bought and sold in Hong Kong

Sad tale of a slave girl

HONG KONG, May 15, (Reuters): "I was sold when I was about four years old and when I was 20 a man bought me as his wife for 200 (Hong Kong) dollars," the old woman said.

"He treated me badly...he smoked opium...I've had a hard life."

Chan, 73, was a "mooj jai," a domestic servant girl, for a moderately wealthy merchant family in Hong Kong from 1920 to 1936.

A mooj jai (Cantonese for "little sister") became the property of the family that bought her and ranked as a second-class daughter assigned to household chores. Often she was sexually abused by her master and might even have to bear children for families with no male heirs.

Mooj jai are usually too ashamed to talk about their past. Chan was prepared to be interviewed on condition that she would not be photographed and her real name not used.

"My mother died and my father who was a drug addict sold me, probably so he could get money for his opium," Chan said through an interpreter. "I never saw him again."

"I had to cook and clean for my master's family. My mistress, the woman who bought me, was one of the master's concubines. I had to work from dawn until late at night every day. Often I had to massage my mistress, but I was so tired I would fall asleep during the massage."

"I used to cry at the hardship sometimes, but really it wasn't so bad. I ate at the same table as they and sometimes they gave me their old clothes."

Chan came to the interview from the shantytown dwelling she shares with her husband. She was bare-foot and in the plainest of faded cotton blouses and trousers.

Although outlawed by the British colony's government, the Chinese custom of buying girls from poor families continued in Hong Kong until the mid-1950s. According to Maria Jaschok, author of a recent book on mooj jai, it still exists in remote and poor parts of China.

"You can be sure the parents of a lot of today's larger and richer Hong Kong families bought and sold mooj jai," Jaschok says.

"Some of those mooj jai are still living with the families that bought them but now they appear to the outside world under the guise of adopted daughters or distant relatives."

Mooj jai, who were unpaid and lucky if they had enough to eat and wear, usually remained illiterate. If a husband was not found for them or they were not sold off to brothels they often stayed with their owners.

The more beguiling might win promotion to concubine status and inherit fortunes when their masters died.

Chan was not forced into concubinage or the brothel. Her master and mistress died and she was sold by one of the merchant's daughters to a tailor. She never saw the family of her former owners again.

Marriage was seen as a charitable reward for the years a mooj jai had worked for no wages.

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Mystery Train moves with Splendour in Cannes

CANNES, May 15, (UPI): US director Jim Jarmusch's "Mystery Train" weaved the Phantom of Elvis into sketches of life in Memphis and Ettore Scola's "Splendour" took a nostalgic look at the death of small Italian cinemas at the Cannes film festival yesterday.

"Mystery Train," the third part of a Jarmusch trilogy, focuses on a shabby hotel in

downtown Memphis, Tennessee, where destinies cross paths without becoming intertwined.

Japanese actors Yuki Kudo and Masatoshi Nagase, who play tourists visiting the shrine of rock and roll, argue about whether Elvis Presley deserves to be honoured as the king of rock.

Italian actress Nicoletta Braschi plays a woman who is trying to book a flight back to Rome

after collecting her dead husband's remains. A group of alcoholics complete the cast of characters, who are revealed through three separate 24-hour slices of life.

The sketches are woven together through Elvis posters appearing in nearly every room and musical performances by blues singers Screamin' Jay Hawkins and Tom Wait and by

Joe Strummer of the British rock group Clash.

"Although the characters never really meet, in 'Mystery Train,' the episodic form is finally just a disguise and the three stories are just separate cars pulled by the same train," Jarmusch said. He described his latest film as "a modern minimalist version of The Canterbury Tales."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Shot dead

BELFAST, May 15, (Reuters): A workman was shot dead on a Belfast building site today, sparking fears that Northern Ireland could face another round of retaliatory sectarian killings.

The man, believed to be a Catholic, was unloading timber when a gunman jumped out of a van and sprayed him with bullets, police said.

Bomb claim denied

LONDON, May 15, (AP): A claim by an underground Scottish group to have firebombed a quarry in an anti-nuclear protest was dismissed by police as false today.

Investigations showed the Saturday night fire at a stone-crushing plant in Glenasaugh quarry near Oban on the west coast of Scotland was accidental, said the northern police region.

Sakharov honoured

MILAN, May 15, (UPI): Soviet "perestroika" reforms are losing speed and the USSR is "heading for an economic catastrophe", Russian dissident Andrei Sakharov told Italian socialists yesterday.

But the Nobel prize-winning human rights activist said he hoped the new Congress of People's Deputies, whose March election was seen as a democratic advance, would transform the nation.

We are all aware of the grave economic situation, which can only worsen," said Sakharov, who was in Milan with his wife, Elena Bonner, and received honours from the city.

4 killed in plane crash

MEXICO CITY, May 15, (AP): A light plane crashed while attempting to land at Mexico City's international airport, killing four of the five people on board, the government news agency Notimex said.

The Cessna plane was en route from Reynosa, across the border from McAllen, Texas, when it crashed on a runway about 3 pm (2100 GMT) Saturday, the agency said.

Protest march

CADIZ, Spain, May 15, (AP): Police fired tear-gas and rubber bullets yesterday to disperse 400 demonstrators after they tried to scale the walls of the US-leased Rota naval base yesterday, police said.

No arrests or injuries were reported by police.

Police said about 5,000 thousand people marched toward the joint-use naval base to demand dismantling of US-leased bases in Spain.

Vatican trends

ROME, May 15, (AP): Prominent Italian theologians are protesting "regressive tendencies" in the Vatican and have called in an open letter for greater freedom of thought, newspapers reported yesterday.

The letter, to be published in the Italian Roman Catholic publication *Il Regno*, marked a new chapter in a clash between Western European theologians and the Vatican.

Stabbed to death

JOHANNESBURG, May 15, (AP): Three black men were stabbed to death in unrest in Natal province and three blacks were injured in two hand-grenade attacks in Soweto, police reported today.

National police headquarters in Pretoria said in a daily unrest report that the three men were killed over the weekend in gang attacks in black areas around the Indian ocean port of Durban and near Pietermaritzburg, the Natal provincial capital.

Ship fire kills 2

NORFOLK, Virginia, May 15, (AP): An explosion and fire killed two sailors on the 24-year-old aircraft carrier USS America in the third deadly blaze on a US warship in 25 days. But the Navy said the events appeared to be unrelated.

One of the two killed on Saturday night may have died while looking for his crewmate after hearing the explosion, a relative said.

No comment

WELLINGTON, May 15, (UPI): New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange today refused comment on a report that he found a man with a camera in his room during his recent visit to Ottawa.

Lange visited Ottawa in early May as a guest of Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and stayed at a house near the Canadian Prime Minister's home.

During the weekend, the Dominion newspaper reported Lange had returned to his room unexpectedly to retrieve a document and found a man there with a camera.

Earthquake

PATRAS, Greece, May 15, (AP): A strong earthquake measuring 5.6 on the open-ended Richter scale rumbled through western Greece today causing little damage and no injuries, police said.

The Athens Seismological Institute said the tremor struck at 12.22 pm (0922 GMT) and had its epicentre 180 kms (113 miles) west of the capital in the seabed off its port city.

UK calls for improvement of ties with Argentina



Peronist supporters celebrate in downtown Buenos Aires after Angeloz conceded defeat. (Reuters wirephoto)



Menem appears with his wife Zulmira Yoria in this file photo taken during a recent campaign rally. (Reuters wirephoto)

Menem sweeps Peronists to power

BUENOS AIRES, May 15, (Reuters): Carlos Menem, the flamboyant governor of an impoverished Argentine province, won a landslide victory in Sunday's presidential elections and swept his Peronist Party back into power after 13 years.

With 93 per cent of the vote counted, official results gave Menem almost 49 per cent, a 12-point lead over Eduardo Angeloz of the ruling Radical Civic Union.

Britain today welcomed the democratic vote in Argentina's presidential election and repeated calls for an improvement in ties strained since their 1982 war over the Falklands (Malvinas) islands.

Menem's lead was bigger than predicted by opinion polls and sufficient to ensure a majority in the electoral college which has the final say in choosing the successor to President Raul Alfonsín, whose six-year term ends on December 10.

Addressing a jubilant crowd in his stronghold of La Rioja province Menem said: "We will put an end to this Argentina where those who do nothing live well and those who work every day of the year live badly."

Angeloz conceded defeat four and a half hours after voting ended. Later Alfonsín sent Menem a message of congratulation.

Peronist candidates won crushing victories in parallel ballots for parliamentary and provincial government positions, giving the party a majority in the lower house of Congress and extending its dominance in the Senate.

Despite a steady drizzle, thousands of Peronists rallied at the party's campaign headquarters in a downtown Buenos Aires hotel to celebrate the victory.

"I'm a Peronist and I adore Menem," 55-year-old Mercedes de Michia said as busloads of people arrived beating huge drums, waving flags and singing the party anthem.

About 20 million Argentines had been due to vote in the first election of a President to be held under a democratic government in 37 years.

The country has undergone six military coups this century and has been ruled by military dictatorship for half of the past 34 years.

Pollsters predicted many ballots would be cast for the Peronists as a "punishment vote" against the Radical Party for its catastrophic handling of the economy.

Spiralling inflation, a soaring public sector deficit and crushing foreign debt have plunged Argentina into one of its worst crisis in history.

Solidarity may support Jaruzelski

WARSAW, May 15, (UPI): Solidarity founder Lech Walesa has raised the possibility that his union might back his longtime nemesis, Polish leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, as a candidate for president in upcoming elections.

Addressing a rally yesterday of some 3,000 people following a mass in St Brigida's church in the seaport of Gdansk, Walesa said he believed Jaruzelski had changed since his government banned Solidarity in October 1982.

"I see Jaruzelski as a different man following our meeting on April 18," Walesa said. "I cannot be guided by emotions and I must be a cool politician now."

The April 18 meeting, called to review the government-Solidarity accord restoring legal status to the union, was the first between the two men since Jaruzelski imposed martial law in December 1981.

Jaruzelski said then, "a mountain will not meet a mountain, but a man will meet a man."

Of Solidarity's position on a presidential candidate, Walesa told the crowd, "there are three ways to vote — one for Jaruzelski, second to abstain, or third, to propose other candidates."

Ivanov wins in Leningrad

Drnovsek wins 56pc votes

New President

MOSCOW, May 15, (Reuters): Special investigator Nikolai Ivanov, who said Politburo member Yegor Ligachev figured in an organised crime investigation, has won a seat in the new Soviet Parliament, officials said today.

Running against 27 other candidates, Ivanov took 60 per cent of the vote in the contest for the city-wide Leningrad seat according to preliminary results obtained by Reuters from the regional Communist Party headquarters.

"This is a repeat of the Boris Yeltsin phenomenon," said Leningrad party spokesman Vladimir Kiryanov, referring to the fallen Kremlin radical who won in Moscow in March despite, and perhaps because of, his struggles with the party.

Kiryanov, contacted by telephone from Moscow, said he thought Leningrad voters had been angered by an attack on Ivanov published in Pravda on Saturday, a day after the investigator implicated Ligachev and three former top officials during a televised debate.

Ivanov told television viewers that Ligachev's name, as well as those of former politburo members Grigori Romanov and Mikhail Solomentsev and former Supreme Court Chief Judge Vladimir Terebilov had figured in a corruption investigation.

He gave no details and stressed that he was not pronouncing anyone guilty but added he was worried that a recent shift to the right in Kremlin policy reflected a strengthening of Ligachev's position in the Kremlin.

"Not only Ivanov's statements played a role, but what was published in Pravda the next day," Kiryanov said.

In the eastern Ukrainian city Kharkov, officials said preliminary data showed editor Vitaly Korotich of the reform-oriented *Ogonyok* magazine had easily defeated nine other candidates



Drnovsek

with 80 per cent of the vote.

Strong showings by Ivanov, Korotich and reform candidates in the restive Baltic republics continued a trend set in the March elections, which favoured reformist and anti-establishment candidates.

In Estonia, Klara Hallik, a lecturer and expert on ethnic relations at Tallinn Polytechnical Institute, won 50.74 per cent of the vote. She was backed by the Estonian People's Front.

Under Yugoslavia's rotating system, presidency members representing each of the semi-autonomous republics take turns every year for the top post, and this time the highest office goes to Slovenia.

Drnovsek takes over from Raif Dizdarevic, of Bosnia-Herzegovina, who is retiring.

Drnovsek, a divorced father of a young son from western-oriented, liberal-minded and high-industrialised Slovenia, has declared that democratisation "has begun and cannot be halted" anymore.

A doctor of economic sciences, who has worked in industry and banking as well as in the diplomatic service, Drnovsek has broad experience in credit and monetary policies.

In neighbouring Latvia, voters handed reformer Merviks Vulfs a narrow victory in a Riga district.

Voters in Kiev narrowed a slate of 33 candidates to two. Economist Vladimir Chernyak, a leader of the Ukrainian People's Front, will face editor Vitaly Karpenko of the official newspaper *Vecherny Kiev* in a third vote, said election official Lydia Voronova.

continue in office if a successor could not be found.

"I have said that after the budget is passed, the entire cabinet will resign," the premier replied.

Professor Rei Shiratori of Tokai University said he believed the succession question would prove so difficult that Takeshita would hang on until his term as leader of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party officially ends on October 30.

"The biggest possibility is that Takeshita will continue until October 30 because nobody else can be found to suc-

ceed him before then," Shiratori said.

Speculation grew today that prosecutors were close to arresting the first members of parliament in connection with the scandal, in which the Recruit Publishing and Telecommunications Group gave huge sums to key politicians and officials.

A poll conducted here amongst Tokyo University students showed that most of the questioned sample do not support the ruling Democratic Liberal Party while the opposition parties are getting more popular.

Church services denounce Noriega

Baker against abrogation of treaty

PANAMA CITY, May 15, (Agencies): Panamanians have used church services to denounce fraud in last Sunday's presidential election and started handing out leaflets calling for a general strike to oppose Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega.

And in Washington, US Secretary of State James Baker said abrogating Panama Canal treaty would be a mistake.

A Panamanian opposition leader yesterday rejected any proposals for forming a junta to replace Noriega, saying the opposition won the May 7 elections and the victory should be recognised.

Panama's political opposition has urged people to stay in their homes all day Wednesday "to show the true will of the Panamanian people."

Opposition to Noriega has become more visible since the election tribunal nullified last week's



Some of the US soldiers sent to Panama rest at Camp Rousseau, near Panama City. (Reuters wirephoto)

presidential elections and pro-government thugs armed with pipes beat the opposition presidential and vice-presidential candidates.

Exit polls by the Roman Catholic church and surveys by opposition poll-watchers and opposition candidate Guillermo Endara ahead 3-1 over Noriega's hand-picked candidate, Carlos Duque, when the count was stopped.

US Ambassador Arthur Davis planned to leave for Washington today after being recalled by President George Bush in protest.

At Panama City's Cristo Rey (Christ the King) church, a militant opposition stronghold, the congregation jumped to its feet and cheered when opposition vice-presidential candidates Guillermo Ford and Ricardo Arias Calderon walked in to take seats in front pews.

Endara remained hospitalised in good condition yesterday from injuries received in last Wednesday's beatings.

The church has been unusually vocal in its recent criticism of Noriega's de facto rule over the country, but the Rev. Javier Villanueva denied yesterday that the church is in the opposition's pocket.

"The church is neither of the opposition nor of the government," he said. "The church is where it should be."

Brief protests also surfaced in churches in the capital's poor areas of San Miguelito and Rio Abajo and in the cities of Colon and David.

A highly critical pastoral letter was read at all masses in Panama yesterday, even a mass broadcast on government-controlled television.

At many churches opposition followers handed out leaflets depicting government beatings of civilians and announcing the proposed work stoppage.

"Read, photocopy and pass along our newspaper," said a hand-written note on one leaflet. The opposition press has been closed down in Panama for more than a year.

Opposition leaders said Saturday they would not rule out talks with the Panamanian military, but the talks would have included the subject of how to get rid of Noriega.

It is unclear what, if any, effect the opposition is having on Noriega, who last appeared in public before the May 7 elections.

At Camp Russo, a US base outside Panama City, some of the 1,900 troops flown in last week settled in for an indefinite stay.

The troops were ordered in by President George Bush last week to add security to US installations and to help evacuate American civilians if necessary.

Out of sight

Panamanian government officials, including military-backed acting President Manuel Solis Palma, have dropped out of sight since Sunday's elections.

Rumours are snowballing around the city that Solis has resigned or is preparing to, that Noriega is about to form a military-civilian junta, and that the divisions within Noriega's military and civilian supporters are virtually paralysing the government.

Other reports speak of Noriega directing operations from the interior, but with a solid wall of official silence, nothing is certain.

Baker said yesterday it would be a mistake for the United States to nullify its canal treaties with Panama if Noriega refuses to relinquish power.

"I don't think that that's the appropriate response," Baker said on US television.

"What you do when you start talking about that," he said, "is turn this into a United States versus Panama — and, in effect, versus some of the rest of Latin America — contest."

"That would be a mistake. It would be counter-productive." He said the US should do all it could to bring public opinion to bear and encourage Noriega, accused by Bush of stealing last week's presidential election from the opposition, to give up power.

Reporter's notebook

■ In Panama, all television stations but one are controlled by the governments. But it's a big exception — Channel 8 — the US armed forces station.

Panamanians avidly watch the armed forces station for news they can't get otherwise. Occasional jamming of news programmes doesn't rub out the sound, and entertainment is never blocked.

Sometimes it seems like the two sides are having a war of the crawlers — the messages that crawl along the bottom of the television screen. Viewers of "Little House on the Prairie" were advised by Channel 8 recently: "Attention. PML (Personnel Movement Limitation) Charlie is in effect. Limit movement. Do not go into public areas of Panama except on official business."

Channel 2, which was showing a film about US interventionism, countered: "The nation is in a state of intense calm. Do not believe the provocative statements being broadcast on Channel 8."

"Do not go to the Amador causeway between 9 am and 8 pm because of a political rally," crawled along the bottom of "now you're in heaven," a Julian Lennon video that played on Channel 8 early yesterday morning. Viewers of a Spanish-dubbed "Flippers" rerun on Channel 2 were told to "come to the Amador causeway between 3 pm and 8 pm yesterday for a festival of Cuban music and dance."

Reporters who followed that advice found that causeway crowded with people listening to music at a government-sponsored festival.

■ Some US servicemen who know their way around Panama are apparently not impressed with regulations limiting their movements. Nor are they very worried about encountering hostile Panamanians, despite a drumbeat of anti-US propaganda here — a drumbeat that has lightened in the last few days.

All that stuff you've seen on TV, I've never seen any of it," said one serviceman who has been in Panama for more than two years. He and a friend were with their Panamanian girlfriends after midnight on a street in an affluent part of the capital, discussing whether to make a night of it at a local disco.

Both admitted they were off-post without authorization, but said it would be no problem to return. "You don't go downtown during political demonstrations. You travel at lunch and dinner time when there are fewer checkpoints," he said. "They might hassle you, but they never do anything."

■ Checkpoint stories are the talk of journalists. While some reporters have been taken to police stations and questioned, most are routine. Last Wednesday, the day opposition presidential candidates were beaten, a reporter at one such checkpoint was questioned about a gas mask.

"What's this for?" asked a soldier. "Tear-gas," was the reply. "Where would they be throwing tear-gas in Panama?" the soldier asked in an indignant tone. "Well, today it was on the Via Espana," the reporter replied. "Oh," said the soldier, and returned the mask.



Back in action

With a Panamanian flag behind him, opposition vice-presidential candidate Guillermo Ford thrusts his fist in the air, while being cheered by supporters after attending a mass in Panama City in support of opposition candidates. Ford was injured on May 10 when he was beaten (left) by pro-government supporters. (Reuters wirephoto)

Ties sour Iran haj boycott looks certain

NICOSIA, May 15, (Reuters): An Iranian boycott of the annual pilgrimage to Muslim holy places looks certain after Tehran unleashed a fresh blast of invective against Saudi Arabia.

Gulf-based Iranian sources said indirect talks on averting a boycott had broken down over Iran's demand to send 150,000 pilgrims, more than three times as many as Saudi Arabia will accept.

A Saudi Arabian official said Iran's intentions would become clear by tomorrow when it will be known if it will attend a conference on the haj (pilgrimage) in Saudi Arabia the next day.

If it does not attend then a boycott of the haj itself next July for the second year in a row will be on the cards, he said.

Diplomats in the region said, however, that a boycott already looked certain.

The criticisms end a truce in a war of words between Iran and Saudi Arabia that began in October when the two countries sought to improve ties following last August's Gulf war ceasefire.

Riyadh backed Iraq in the war and broke diplomatic ties with Tehran in April last year, accusing it of terrorism and subversive acts as the two countries clashed over the haj. Ties have not been restored.

More than 400 people were killed when Iranian pilgrims rioted during an anti-Western demonstration in Makkah in July 1987.

Iran stayed away from the pilgrimage in 1988 after Saudi Arabia refused to accept more than 45,000 Iranians or agree to shun political activities during the haj.

The Saudi official said no one will know until midnight on Tuesday whether Iran will attend tomorrow's conference of pilgrimage ministers from 45 Islamic countries.

Riyadh has warned that strict Islamic sharia law will be enforced against anyone who "flouts" this year's haj.

Saudi Arabia "refuses to entertain the lives of pilgrims in the holy city of Makkah by demonstrations and violence... and it will use Islamic sharia for punishment," a Saudi official said in a statement to the Saudi Press Agency.

Officials and diplomats said that with just seven weeks to go, time was running out for Iran to arrange the necessary documents and travel plans.

If the Iranians do go they will be thoroughly searched for pictures of Iranian leaders, propaganda sheets or weapons, sources in Riyadh said. Saudi security men would shadow the pilgrims.

Riyadh has said it would regard the display of pictures of Iranian spiritual leaders as an atheistic act.

Rioting and causing unrest and damage at the holy sites could be punished by beheading.

Last year Riyadh added terrorism and sabotage to a list of capital crimes. In November it beheaded four Saudi nationals, with alleged Iranian links, convicted of sabotage.

Egypt Backs

■ Egypt has renewed its support to the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) decision on pilgrimage quota. And said it abides by the decision.

In an interview with the Jeddah-based OIC newspaper today, Egyptian Endowments Minister Mohamed Ali Mahgoub said the decision which had been unanimously endorsed by the OIC foreign ministers during their meeting in Amman, Jordan, in March 1988 is a legal step and the kingdom has the right to take such measure because it is the host country, and therefore, it is legally responsible for ensuring the safety and security of the pilgrims.

Mahgoub said the kingdom has the right also to reject any call to increase the number of pilgrims since this increase will negatively affect the quality of services to be rendered to the pilgrims.

Stumbling block to Shamir's plan

Arabs in East Jerusalem reject overtures

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 15, (AP): The long-simmering controversy over East Jerusalem, where 140,000 Arabs live on land annexed into Israel's capital, now has become a major stumbling block to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's peace plan.

Israel calls Jerusalem its "eternal capital" and shudders at the mere hint of giving up the eastern sector captured in the 1967 Middle East war. It includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest shrine.

"Jerusalem, the city of Jerusalem, all of the city of Jerusalem, is part of the state of Israel," Shamir declared on a recent walking tour of the Jewish quarter in the walled old city, ruled by Jordan before its capture.

But the PLO also has declared Jerusalem as the capital of its would-be state, and many Palestinians in the city say the Arab sector must be part of any agreement to end the bloody 17-month-old uprising against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The West Bank is the body and Jerusalem is the soul," Arab poet Fauzi Al Bakri said in an interview. "One without the other is empty, nothing."

The seemingly irreconcilable demands have cast a shadow over Shamir's call for elections to choose representatives in the occupied territories to negotiate an interim peace plan with Israel.

Shamir, backed by members of his right-wing Likud Bloc, wants to exclude East Jerusalem's Arabs from voting.

But the US State Department and the left-leaning Labour Party, which shares power in Shamir's coalition government, are pressing for some arrangement to let East Jerusalem residents vote.

The question is further complicated because several influential Palestinians — likely candidates in any election — live in East Jerusalem.

More than 80 Palestinian leaders from Jerusalem and the territories have rejected Shamir's plan, as has the PLO. They say it does not recognise their

demand for independence. Conflict over Jerusalem is nothing new. Canaanites, Jews, Greeks, Romans, Christian Crusaders and Arabs have been among the parade of conquerors. Shrines left behind are among the most sacred to Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Jerusalem was to have been an international city under the never-implemented UN partition plan to create Jewish and Arab states in Palestine. The 1948 Arab-Israeli war left East Jerusalem and the old city in Arab hands and the western sector in Israel.

Immediately after East Jerusalem's capture in 1967, Israel sought to integrate it into its capital.



Flag in flames

Masked Kashmiri militants demonstrate outside Srinagar's Jama Masjid after Friday prayers. They also burnt the Indian flag. Two people were killed and at least 35 were injured in anti-Indian protests last week in the predominantly Muslim state. (Reuters wirephoto)

Search on for Briton Trying our best, says Hoss

BEIRUT, May 15, (Agencies): The head of Lebanon's Muslim cabinet said today authorities were continuing their efforts to locate the whereabouts of an elderly British man abducted three days ago in West Beirut.

"We are trying our best with the help of the security forces in Lebanon to identify the whereabouts of the kidnapped man and to try and have him released as soon as possible," Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss said.

Hoss told United Press International he had no exact information on who is holding Jack Mann, 74, "but we are pursuing this incident closely and we hope

that the security forces would reach a positive result very soon."

A hitherto unknown group, named "The Cells of the Armed Struggle," claimed responsibility for the abduction and demanded a speedy trial or release of "comrades" imprisoned in Britain.

Mann, a retired civil aviation pilot, was snatched by unidentified gunmen while driving in the West Beirut neighbourhood of Hamra at noon Friday.

The hostage's car, an old Simca Talbot, was found yesterday in the Syrian-patrolled seaside region of Rawshe, security sources said.

Syrian officers delivered the car to the wife of Mann, Sunny, at her residence in Rawshe where she resides.

Syrian and Lebanese security sources said a search for Mann, which started after his kidnapping, continued today, but there was no major breakthrough in the investigations. A senior Syrian Army officer said his troops were contacting all militias in Beirut but so far without result.

Sunny reported her husband missing on Saturday after he left home early Friday, and drove in his car to the nearby commercial region of Hamra to cash a cheque at the British bank.



Unmanned aircraft

Pioneer unmanned remote-guided reconnaissance aircraft of a type sold by Israel to US Navy are displayed by Israeli aircraft industries. (Reuters wirephoto)

Israel launches diplomatic initiative

(Continued from Page 1)

wounds. The Deir Nidham man allegedly stabbed and injured a border policeman in February.

Western nations, including the United States, have condemned house demolitions and sealings as a violation of the right to due process because the punishment usually comes before suspects have been tried.

Since the December 1987 start of the uprising, more than 170 houses have been demolished and more than 70 others sealed in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to Army figures.

Israel today launched a broad diplomatic initiative to win international backing for its plan to hold Palestinian elections in the occupied territories.

Within the next two weeks, Shamir and other senior cabinet ministers will travel to the United States and Western European nations to present details of the

plan.

A PLO official today described the Israeli government's election proposals as ridiculous and said they appeared to fall far short of elections envisaged by the PLO.

In Kuwait, Bassam Abu Sharif, an aide to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, also said that the Palestinians will not accept holding any elections in the occupied territories that do not lead to a comprehensive settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the future of the occupied land.

In Cairo, Dennis Ross, a US

State Department envoy, today discussed with senior Egyptian officials details of Israel's plan for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Egyptian President Mubarak took a cautious approach today to the peace plan proposed by Israel, refusing comment until he studies it in detail.

■ The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) called today for the stepping up of the revolt against Israeli occupation and urged Arab states to back the uprising effectively.

Verdict on Hamadi expected tomorrow

FRANKFURT, West Germany, May 15, (AP): West German officials have been acting on behalf of "the civilised world" in prosecuting TWA hijacker Mohammed Ali Hamadi, says a court spokesman of the soon-to-be-ended criminal trial.

But a lawyer for 16 of the American victims says they're wary of possible secret political deals that could free Hamadi before the end of whatever prison sentence he may receive.

The Frankfurt district court issues its verdict on Wednesday against the Lebanese, who is charged with air piracy and murder in the June 1985 ordeal.

Court spokesman Falk Thomas is clear about what officials see as the importance of the lengthy proceedings against Hamadi, a Shiite Muslim.

"Basically, you can say we are representatives of the civilised world in conducting a terrorism trial," Thomas told the Associated Press. "The safety of international air travel concerns everyone."

Thomas staunchly asserted that the court remained completely independent throughout the mammoth proceedings, despite two kidnappings in Lebanon aimed at winning Hamadi's freedom and another abduction this month.

The trial started last July 5, grinding through 64 days of horrifying testimony about the beatings and mistreatment of passengers after TWA Flight 847 was commandeered to Beirut.

Thirty-nine Americans were held hostage for 17 days, and US Navy diver Robert Stethem was killed.

As pilot John Testrake testified last September: "It appeared that one of the hijackers (Hamadi) enjoyed beating the passengers more ... to inflict violence when no violence was called for."

The hijackers also targeted two other men for savage beatings after the plane was hijacked on an Athens-to-Rome flight on June 14, 1985.

American Kurt Carlson said he "prayed to God" to let him die after Hamadi repeatedly cracked an armrest over his back. The hijackers also viciously attacked Clinton Suggs, one of six US Navy divers on board.

In all, more than 100 witnesses testified at the proceedings in the heavily guarded courtroom inside Frankfurt's fortress-like Preungeshheim prison.

Hamadi, who prosecutors say is 24 years old, faces charges of air piracy and murder. He admitted last August he was one of the hijackers, but has denied he shot Stethem, 23.

Hamadi testified that the goal of the hijacking was to force the release of Lebanese Muslims imprisoned in Israel. Shortly after the ordeal ended, Israel released about 700 such prisoners.

The ever-present danger of reprisals against West Germans formed the backdrop for the trial.

Frankfurt lawyer for the 16 Americans involved in the case, says the danger isn't likely to subside, with the court weighing a possible life sentence.

Hamdi notes that the kidnappers who held West German medical relief worker Markus Quint in Lebanon had been seeking more lenient treatment for Hamadi. Quint was released in southern Lebanon on Sunday (May 14), 10 days after being abducted.

Israeli plan for elections Political initiative

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 15, (Reuters): Following is a partial text of a resolution passed by the Israeli government on May 14:

"This document presents the principles of a political initiative of the government of Israel which deals with the continuation of the peace process the termination of the state of war with the Arab states a solution for the Arabs of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district, peace with Jordan and a resolution of the problem of the residents of the refugee camps in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza districts ...

In order to advance the political negotiation process leading to peace, Israel proposes free and democratic elections among the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district in an atmosphere devoid of violence, threats and terror. In these elections a representation will be chosen to conduct negotiations for a transitional period of self-rule.

This period will constitute a test for coexistence and co-operation. At a later stage, negotiations will be conducted for a permanent solution during which all the proposed options for an agreed settlement will be examined, and peace between Israel and Jordan will be achieved ...

The transitional period will continue for five years. As soon as possible, but not later than the third year after the beginning of the transitional period, negotiations for achieving a permanent solution will begin.

The parties participating in the negotiations for the first stage (the interim agreement) shall include Israel and the elected representation of the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district. Jordan and Egypt will be invited to participate in these negotiations if they so desire.

The parties participating in the negotiations for the second stage (permanent solution) shall include Israel and the elected representation of the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and Gaza district, as well as Jordan furthermore Egypt may participate in these negotiations. In negotiations between Israel and Jordan ... the peace treaty between Israel and Jordan will be concluded.

During the transitional period the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district will be accorded self-rule by means of which they will, themselves, conduct their affairs of daily life. Israel will continue to be responsible for security, foreign affairs and all matters concerning Israeli citizens in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district ...

Details of process for implementation of the initiative: First and foremost dialogue and basic agreement by the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district as well as Egypt and Jordan if they wish to take part ... in the negotiations on the principles constituting the initiative.

Immediately afterwards will follow the stage of preparations and implementation of the election process in which a representation of the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and Gaza will be elected. This representation:

Shall be a partner to the conduct of negotiations for the transitional period (interim agreement).

Shall constitute the self-governing authority in the course of the transitional period.

Shall be the central Palestinian component, subject to agreement after three years, in the negotiations for the permanent solution.

In the period of the preparations and implementation there shall be a calming of the violence in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza district, who shall be elected by the inhabitants to represent them — after having submitted his candidacy in accordance with the detailed document which shall determine the subject of the elections — may be a legitimate participant in the conduct of negotiations with Israel.

Gazans angered Jewish violence

GAZA CITY, Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip, May 15, (UPI): A week of Israeli mobs hurling stones and epithets at Palestinians working in Israel left Gazans workers angered and dismayed at the latest violence.

"Every day people are killed in the territories," said Ashraf, a 22-year-old Gaza construction worker. "I'm so amazed why the Jews are doing this when one of them is killed and we do nothing when scores of us are killed."

"Is our blood water and is their blood gold?" Ashraf asked. He stayed away from work in Israel yesterday because he said some Palestinian taxi drivers feared Israelis would attack them.

For a week, angry Jewish mobs shouting "Death to the Arabs" have stoned and attacked Palestinians near where the body of a missing Israeli soldier was found last Sunday, roughly 10 miles (16 kms) north-east of Gaza. It is believed Sgt Avi Sasportas, who disappeared

while hitchhiking in February, had been killed for political motives.

Fuelling Israeli-Arab tension along the coast was the disappearance of a second soldier, Ilan Sa'adon, last seen May 3 while hitchhiking in the same area as Sasportas.

In Ashdod, Sasportas' hometown, police have urged Palestinian workers staying overnight in the city to come to the police station for their own protection.

Officials also prohibited Palestinian sanitation workers from entering the city for several days and plan to stop nearly two dozen Arab merchants from selling their products at Ashdod's market for the next six weeks.

"The administration of Ashdod municipality gave me a one month vacation to absorb the anger of the Jews over the death of the soldier and the kidnapping of another," said a 57-year-old resident of Gaza's beach refugee camp.

1,500 extremists detained in Egypt

CAIRO, May 15, (UPI): About 1,500 Muslim extremists have been arrested in various parts of the country since renewed clashes with security forces broke out April 7 at El Faiyum, Interior Minister Zaki Badr said.

In an interview published in the early editions today of the newspaper Mayo, weekly organ of the ruling National Democratic Party, Badr said the

arrests were made following bloodshed between security forces and Muslim extremists at El Faiyum, 120 miles southwest of Cairo.

Asked to comment on reports that "thousands" of Muslim extremists have been arrested, Badr said, "honestly speaking, we have detained only 1,500 Muslim extremists from the various regions of the country."

Badr said authorities want to prevent "the spread of the plot which began at El Faiyum to the rest of the country."

"Anyone trying to undermine security will be arrested," Badr warned. "I also warn those playing with fire that I am not personally fond of playing with fire and whoever plays with fire will be severely punished."

MIDEAST BRIEFS

UAE envoy to Sudan

ABUDHABI, May 15, (Reuters): The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has agreed to send its ambassador back to Khartoum, Sudanese Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Al Hussein said today.

The envoy was recalled in December in protest at the release of a Sudanese who stormed into the UAE embassy in Khartoum two months earlier.

The man briefly held the ambassador and six staff hostage before police overpowered him. He was freed on bail but the UAE demanded that he remain in jail, saying he endangered the lives of its citizens.

Saddam meets

BAGHDAD, May 15, (Reuters): President Saddam Hussein and the Amir of Bahrain Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa met yesterday for talks on Lebanon, the Palestinian question and bilateral relations, Baghdad television said.

Sheikh Isa, who arrived earlier in the day, is current chairman of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) while Saddam holds the same post in the newly formed Arab Co-operation Council (ACC).

The GCC comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman. The ACC links Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen.

Compensation

NICOSIA, May 15, (Reuters): Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi has asked Turkey to back his demand that Italy pay compensation for "genocide" during its colonial rule. Khaddafi told Turkish businessmen West German compensation paid to Jews because of crimes during World War II set a precedent in international law for Libya's claim against Italy, the Liban News Agency JANA quoted Khaddafi as saying yesterday.

Rushdie book

MANAGUA, May 15, (Reuters): Nicaragua, which maintains good relations with Iran, is preparing to publish a book by Salman Rushdie on the Nicaraguan revolution. Erik Blandon, head of the government-controlled editorial Vanguardia Publishing House, said that "The Jaguar's Smile," Rushdie's book about the Nicaraguan revolution, would be available here within a few weeks.

Assad to visit Iran

DAMASCUS, May 15, (Reuters): President Hafiz Al Assad is to visit Iran on his first trip there since the 1979 Islamic revolution, the official Syrian news agency SANA reported today.

It gave no date for the visit, Syria was Iran's main Arab ally in the eight-year Gulf war which ended with a UN-sponsored ceasefire last August.

Militiamen killed

MIMAS, Lebanon, May 15, (Reuters): Gunners of the pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army (SLA) killed three Druze militiamen and wounded seven today when they shelled their jeep, security sources said. They said the jeep was hit in the village of Mimas on the edge of Israel's self-declared security zone. The village lies in the eastern region of Bekaa, controlled by Syrian forces.

Village unearthed

NICOSIA, May 15, (AP): Iraqi archaeologists have unearthed what may be the oldest agricultural village yet discovered in the world, dating back to 9000 BC the official Iraqi News Agency reported today.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted archaeologists as saying the settlement was located 35 kms (21 miles) south of Nineveh in northern Iraq.

The village consisted of two circular houses, each 2-3 metres (yards) high and six metres in diameter. They were built with bricks and had soft roofs.

US accused of ignoring Afghan accord

MOSCOW, May 15, (Agencies): Soviet Union accused the United States and Pakistan today of ignoring virtually the entire agreement on Afghanistan since the first Soviet soldiers left one year ago.

"Pakistan and the United States practically fully ignored their obligations on all points" of the Geneva agreement leading to the withdrawal of the Soviet soldiers, said the communist Party daily Pravda.

It charged that the two countries "already signed decided not to fulfill it. For them the main goal was to gain the withdrawal of Soviet soldiers from Afghanistan."

The agreement was signed by Pakistan, the United States, the Soviet Union and Afghanistan on April 14, 1988, and the first Soviet soldiers were withdrawn on May 15, 1988.

The last Soviet soldiers left Afghanistan on Feb 15, nine months later. More than 13,000 Soviet soldiers died and 35,000 were wounded in more than nine years of fighting after they entered the country in December 1979 to replace one pro-Soviet government with another.

Rebels have tried to take several key Afghan cities from the government, but failed. Pravda said the Army of Afghan President Najib was fighting better and had better spirit.

PFLP-GC and Iranians plotted Pan Am bomb, says magazine

NEW YORK, May 15, (Reuters): The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) plotted with Iran's Revolutionary Guards to blow up a Pan Am airliner, killing 290 people, a published report said yesterday.

The meetings between the PFLP-GC and the Revolutionary Guards followed the accidental downing of an Iranian airliner with 290 people aboard by the US Vincennes in the Gulf last year, US News and World Report magazine said.

Quoting anonymous US intelligence officials, the magazine said a meeting last July in Lebanon was one in a

series between the militant, Palestinian group, led by Ahmed Jibril, and the guards going back a year before Pan Am Flight 103 exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland.

In almost every case, intelligence sources say, Jibril and his men sought the meetings, and almost always their request was the same —

money in exchange for terrorist activities," the magazine said.

Four barometer-triggered bombs, similar to one in the Pan Am blast, were recovered by German police, but one bomb remained in circulation, the magazine said.

Planning meet Role of private sector limited

A SEMINAR entitled "Development Planning and the role of the Private Sector in Kuwait" organised by the Kuwait Planning Institute is currently underway, a local daily reported.

Dr Mohammed Sadeq of the institute reviewed in the first session the role of the private sector in the development process since 1950.

The sector's role in general is limited and its contribution to the development process is poor," he said.

He added that despite the concern shown by the state since the late 1940s and the beginning of 1950s the public sector still constitutes the backbone of the national economy and still dominates 90 per cent of the investments volume and realises 90 per cent of total revenues.

He warned against the adverse effects of the current expansion in the public sector and called for enhancing the role of the private sector and for diversifying sources of economic income by minimising the dependence on oil and its derivatives.

He said that the oil revenues represented 90 per cent of the country's income with the balance accruing from customs fees, service charges and tax paid by the foreign companies in Kuwait.

He clarified that all the major projects including the infrastructural ones were carried out by the public sector. However, Sadeq attached great importance to the increasing concern given to the private sector in the forthcoming stage.

Harmony

The co-ordinator of the seminar Dr Haider Al Hashmi talked about the state's Five-Year-Plan (1985-1990), clarifying that the plan concentrated on developing the private sector and enhancing its role in the development of different fields.

He added that the plan called for co-ordination and harmony between the private and public sectors in order to mobilise the community powers for realising development requirements.

He added that the current plan had attached special importance to the private sector contributions towards implementing the developmental plan.

Hashmi said that the seminar will debate in its fourth session the horizons of future plans which necessitate highlighting the future role of the private sector in the development process which eventually require crystallising necessary ideas within framework of long term national objectives.

Indian envoy

KUWAIT, May 15: Indian Ambassador Nagendra Nath Jha today met with Dirar Razouki, acting director of international organisations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. They discussed a number of issues of mutual interest and co-operation between India and Kuwait.

Haggling only way to get lower fish prices

AFTER the end of Eid holidays, the fish market returned to its normal activities and the number of customers greatly increased.

According to a local daily who canvassed opinions and toured the fish market, a large section of customers said that hamoor is unavailable and zobaidei is locally caught but mixed with the exported one. They added that fish prices during Ramadan were cheaper and called upon Kuwait Municipality to step up inspections to prevent cheating. Other customers said that fish prices are not unified and they have to haggle with salesmen to get better deals.

On the other hand, salesmen said that sales were good during Ramadan and

that prices are affected by supply and demand. They added that the Iranian zobaidei attracted many customers.

Um Hasan, a customer complained of the rise in fish prices. "Prices were cheaper during Ramadan", she said.

She pointed out that the local zobaidei price reached KD5 per kilogramme after the Eid holidays compared to KD2 during Ramadan. She described buying fish like buying gold.

Ahmad Mohammed, another consumer said that fish prices are reasonable and it is easy to find any type of fish. "Ramadan was cheaper, because nobody was buying fish," he added. He said that large quantities of the Iranian

zobaidei entered the market which caused prices of other types of fish to drop.

Um Amer complained of high prices and said that it is hard to find good hamoor these days. "Prices vary among each salesmen and it is the buyers skill of bargaining over the price which decides a good deal or not," she added. She said that some salesmen deliberately mix imported fish with local fish and sell it at local fish prices. She called upon the municipality to supervise the salesmen to prevent cheating.

The salesmen, Waheed Ghanem said that prices during the holy month of Ramadan were higher, because the fish supply decreased.

"Fishermen fast during Ramadan and fish is less, due to weather conditions." He added that prices these days are cheaper than Ramadan, due to the fact that there is more fish at the market.

He said that he sold an average of 50 kilogrammes of fish daily during Ramadan. On ordinary days, he sells an average of 60 kilogrammes every day.

Qasem Saeed, another salesmen said that fish prices are very cheap these days because of the big amounts of the Iranian zobaidei which entered the market. He added that the Iranian zobaidei is characterised by a good taste and is usually freshly caught, therefore more consumers are buying it.

He added that the Iranian zobaidei has the same taste as that of the locally caught zobaidei.

He said that these days local zobaidei is sold at KD2.5 per kilogramme, hamam is sold at 750 fils per kilogramme, hamoor at KD1.5 and fasker at 500 fils per kilogramme.

Ali Al Ibrahim said that he sells nearly 150 kilogrammes of fish daily. "Prices could differ within one day, fish salesmen will not sell for lesser prices during the morning periods, but will sell cheaper during the evening period," he said.

He advised customers to buy just after finishing their working hours in order to get better deals.

Private tutor racket cannot be stopped

Educational standard low

OFFICIALS at the Ministry of Education believe that the phenomena of private lessons is unresolvable. They said that the ministry has tried many methods and even resorted to threats to suspend the services of teachers who use private lessons as a trade without much success.

The Ministry of Education also closed private tutorials and replaced them with strengthening classes at the teachers society. "All of these procedures did not give any results," according to an education official. They pointed out that the negative results of the ministry's efforts to eradicate this slur on the education process has become a threat to the educational well-being in Kuwait.

The ministry is aware that the problem is even more serious during the final examination period each year. A large number of teachers believe that private lessons is a legal educational procedure at which teachers provide students with individual attention to help him concentrate and comprehend better.

On the other hand, other teachers are of the opinion that the phenomenon represents a clear indication that education in Kuwait suffers weakness and has declined in level.

A third party of teachers and educational officials see that private lessons as a "time bomb" and stressed that it is like a pest. Officials there warned of adverse

results in the future.

One of the officials said the strengthening classes at schools and the teachers society is not a compatible replacement for private lessons. They pointed out that students from the scientific section of the general education sector form a high percentage of students who take private lessons.

Other officials gave suggestions and expressed their views on the phenomenon. They said that students should only depend on themselves to obtain success and suggested the replacement of some required educational curricula and lessening the credit hour system.

A study prepared by a number of researchers at the Educational Researches Centre revealed that private lessons spread into all general education stages and credit hour systems. This is the result of a survey conducted on a total of 2,493 students with 80.7 per cent of students from the general secondary stage and 245 students from the credit hours system. Of those participating in the survey 51.6 per cent said they receive private lessons in addition to taking part at strengthening classes at schools. A further, 27.43 per cent of students said that they have brothers studying at 'primary stage' who receive private lessons also.

The study added that the phenomenon was more noticeable during the final academic year. It indicated that 40 per cent of students receiving private lessons are from the fourth intermediate stage, 37.61 per cent from the third intermediate stage. From students at the secondary stage, 37.3 per cent of

the sample students receiving private lessons were from the fourth secondary stage and 29.6 per cent were from the first secondary stage.

The study added that the phenomena increases at the science section. Of the total sample students, 40.8 per cent of students receiving private lessons are from the scientific section and only 26.61 per cent from the arts section.

Most students preferred to receive their private lessons at their homes and alone without joining other students the study indicated. It said that 60 per cent of secondary stage students preferred this method to obtain more attention from their private tutor.

The study reached the conclusion that students take private lessons to obtain high grades at final examinations, to obtain high grades during the academic year, to have more confidence in themselves and finally due to the length of the curricula.

English, mathematics, physics, chemistry and Arabic language and grammar were amongst students higher priority list of private lessons, the study added.

It pointed that students preferred receiving private lessons by teachers other than those teaching them at their schools.

On the other hand, a small number of students surveyed by the Educational Researches Centre said that private lessons reduces students dependability on themselves and is a burden to the family budget, a waste of students time and may make students negligent of teachers lectures during school hours.

Shamlan meets Pakistan President

ISLAMABAD, May 15, (KUNA): The Kuwaiti delegation to the fourth meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference Committee of Scientific and Technological Co-operation (COMSTEC) had an exclusive interview with Pakistan President Gulsam Ishaq Khan at the president's house here this morning.

"It was an excellent meeting which lasted for more than half hour," delegation leader Dr Ali Abdullah Al Shamlan told KUNA in his hotel room this evening.

Dr Ahmad Al Jassar, the other member of the delegation, and the Kuwaiti Ambassador in Pakistan Qasim Omer Al Yaqout, accompanied Dr Shamlan to the president's house.

"We had a very good chat with the president about scientific and technological developments in Pakistan and also on ways and means of co-operation between Kuwaiti and Pakistani scientific institutions," he said.

Dr Shamlan said he also conveyed to President Ishaq greetings from HH the Amir of Kuwait and also his best wishes for his presidency.

The fourth meeting of the COMSTEC on the second day of its deliberations approved a \$3.7 million budget for its various programmes for biennial 1989-90.

Presented to the 6th plenary session of the meeting by Pakistan's Dr M.A. Kazi the budget envisages 89 per cent allocation for various scientific programmes and 11 per cent of the COMSTEC secretariat in Islamabad.

A COMSTEC spokesman told newsmen that \$2.1 million would be spent on six major thrust areas namely food and agriculture, health, manpower development, energy, scientific information and development of resources.

One million, he said, would go towards the institutional building and another \$1,500,000 for Islamic Foundation research.

The spokesman said that while approving the budget, prepared by Pakistan, the delegates appreciated that a small amount had been allocated for non-development purposes.

Doctor Adil Ezzis, Egyptian minister for scientific research, presided over the session which adopted the budget.



The broken front window of one of the offices.

Cheques, cars stolen

SEVERAL offices dealing in cars at the Sharq area had their contents stolen on Friday morning, a local Arabic daily said.

Mustafa Shashar, an owner of one of these offices said, thieves broke the glass front of the office and stole a number of cheques on the table. The thieves found the key of one of the cars but they could not steal the car as it was surrounded by other cars.

He questioned the absence of policeman or guards for commercial shops, more so, as there is a branch of bank in the same building of these car offices.

Anwar Al Khafaja, another owner, said that thieves succeeded in stealing a new car after finding the ignition key. He added that his neighbour also had his office burgled. The thieves tried to open the safe inside the office forcibly. The thieves went upstairs to the second floor of the office and are suspected of spending the night there. A cassette recorder, some cassettes and paper tissues were left at the scene, he said.

Khafaja said that car was stolen at 7 am and girl living opposite the office saw the culprit and informed the police giving a description of the thief. The owner of a nearby restaurant who also saw the criminal gave the same description and said he thought the culprit was the owner of one of the offices.

Meanwhile, a number of citizens in the Jahra area contacted a local daily claiming that their cars had been stolen. An Indian driver also claimed that his car was snatched by someone at a gun point. The criminal ordered him to get out of the car and then he fled with it, the Indian driver claimed.

New markets sought for UAE water exports

AN ECONOMIC study has pointed out that the United Arab Emirates must try looking for new markets for its mineral water products, in the near future, as there are already 33 mineral water factories in the GCC states.

The study expected that the production of these factories will be increased in the near future, thus affecting the UAE mineral water exports to the GCC member states.

The study which was prepared by the UAE industrial bank said that the expected increase in the UAE production of mineral water next year, greatly surpasses the expected increase in the local consumption of UAE during the same year. The study stressed that the increase in the local consumption will not be more than 5-7 per cent in the next few years.

The study added that at present there are five factories for producing mineral water in UAE, the total production capacity of which is 230,000 tons a year. Their actual production last year was 144,000 tons, or 63 per cent of its capacity.

The study said that the production capacity will go up to 320,000 tons by the beginning of next year when two more factories will be added. But the study added that the local UAE market consumes about 88 per cent of UAE production of 126,000 tons. The remaining 12 per cent or about 18,000 tons are exported abroad, particularly to other GCC states which absorb 90 per cent of these exports. The remaining quantity goes to Southeast Asian countries. Oman topped the list of importers of mineral water from UAE in 1988 with 7,000 tons.

Statistics issued by the Ministry of Commerce said that UAE exports from mineral water went up by 127 per cent in the period from 1986-88.

School nurses under scrutiny

THE "Fifth Nursing Week" continued its activities yesterday at Kuwait Sheraton Hotel, a local daily reported.

The meeting debated a joint study submitted by the head of nursing services and head of health services at Al Sabah Centre, Meriam Al Raqom and Dr Shadya Al Hakeem respectively on the theme "Role and effects of the school nurse on the educational process."

The study confirmed that the school health did not deal with

medical services to be rendered to the students, but these services played a significant role in supporting the educational process.

The study called for providing each intermediate school with at least one nurse.

An independent study conducted by the centre indicated that about 55 per cent of the students involved in the study confirmed the need for the services of nurses towards health education. About 24 per cent confirmed the role of the nurse in solving health problems.



Meriam Al Raqom

Le MERIDIEN KUWAIT

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GCC industry ministers to meet in Riyadh

THE GCC Industrial Co-operation Committee comprising the ministers of industries of the member states is to hold its eighth meeting in Riyadh on May 22, according to the Riyadh based GCC General Secretariat.

In a statement issued yesterday, the secretariat said the two-day meeting will be preceded by the preparatory committee meeting which comprises the ministries of industries undersecretaries of the GCC countries scheduled to take place today.

The statement added that the preparatory committee will debate the topics listed in the draft agenda and the recommendations of the relevant technical committee, including the protection of the national industrial output and enhancing of the non-oil industries.

The preparatory committee will also debate the efforts exerted by the GCC General Secretariat towards setting up of an industrial development plan to cover the next decade in addition to manufacturing telephone sets locally, the statement said.

It added that the secretariat will inform the committee about the

latest developments of the negotiations between the GCC countries and EEC countries.

Meanwhile the Measurements and Specifications Authority of the GCC has completed a project for a unified GCC specification on cigarettes.

The project which is based upon a study prepared by the authority fixed the content of tar not to exceed 12 mg and nicotine not to exceed 0.8 mg in each cigarette. It also determined the maximum level of carbon monoxide that should emanate from each cigarette and several conditions required in the quality of tobacco.

The new project asks cigarette manufacturers to print a health warning on the packet in both Arabic and English, in addition to production date. The draft of the project was distributed to all member states for their opinions.

A comprehensive laboratory for examining cigarettes and whether they conform with the GCC specifications was set up in Saudi Arabia specially for this purpose.

KUWAIT UNIVERSITY
Office of the Assistant Vice-Rector for Community Service

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Centre for Community Service and Continuing Education at Kuwait University has the pleasure to announce that "Learning Japanese" course will commence from May 27th and end on June 27th, 1989.

Interested applicants should contact the Community Service and Continuing Education, Tele. Nos 4830804/4819241.

This programme is sponsored in co-ordination with Kuwait-Japanese Friendship Group and the Japanese School in Kuwait.

Language seminar opens

A SEMINAR on the modern techniques used in teaching languages opened at University's Club in Shuwaikh last Sunday and will continue until Wednesday. The seminar is organised by Language Centre of Kuwait University. A French specialist conducted the discussions as the main lecturer.

The seminar aims at developing teaching methods of languages and educational techniques required for teaching. The centre teaches four foreign languages: English, French, Russian and German as well as Arabic for non-Arabs.

The seminar will consist of four sessions to be attended by teachers of the centre. The teachers will study the modern com-

puter techniques used in teaching languages.

Meanwhile owners of private schools and educational institutions have criticised the announcement of a private educational establishment to offer students cash as an incentive to enrol.

This came following an advertisement published by the establishment in question in a local newspaper announcing the availability of reduced tuition fees and cash for students seeking to register with it.

A statement by the Union of Private Schools denounced this approach and warned against turning the educational process into a business subject to bargaining and material evaluations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Crown Prince audience

KUWAIT, May 15, (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah received in his diwan at Bayan Palace at 10.15 am today the Arab League delegation branching off the Arab six-man committee on Lebanon.

The delegation comprised Lakhdar Al Ibrahim, assistant Arab League secretary general, Ambassador Ahmed Abdul Aziz Al Jassim of the State of Kuwait to Syria and Brigadier Ali Al Mouamen, commander of the Arab Observer Force.

The audience was attended by Foreign Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shabin.

Khorafi visit

CAIRO, May 15 (KUNA): Kuwait Minister of Finance Jassim Mohammed Al Khorafi flew into Cairo Sunday on an official visit to Egypt.

He was received at the airport by the Egyptian Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Administrative Development Dr Atef Obeid and senior Egyptian officials.

The Kuwaiti minister told journalists on arrival that he will convey a verbal message from HH the Amir of Kuwait to President Hosni Mubarak.

He added that during the visit he will sign a Kuwaiti-Egyptian agreement for the protection and encouragement of investments. Khorafi expressed hope that the visit will be a good opportunity to discuss a number of joint ventures.

Herbal medicines

KUWAIT, May 15, (KUNA): Minister of Public Health Dr Abdul Razak Youssef Al Abdul Razak said a decision listed the herbal medicines allowed into Kuwait.

The decision banned manufacturing, importing, exporting, selling or circulating any herbal medicine in the country until after registering it with the Health Ministry.

It assigned the ministry's Islamic Medicine Centre with the responsibility of receiving registration requests and defined the medicine as that enclosed in a package and extracted from herbs for treatment purposes.

Medical accord

KUWAIT, May 15, (KUNA): Kuwait and Yugoslavia signed on Sunday an agreement on medical cooperation to complement a previous accord signed last March.

Under the new accord, the two countries will exchange physicians for training purposes and Kuwaiti patients will be offered treatment in Yugoslavia.

The accord, between the Health Ministry and the medical university centre of the Yugoslav city of Ljubljana, was signed by Health Ministry Undersecretary Nael Al Naqeb and the Yugoslav centre's board chairman Prof Jose Trontel.

Nawaf meetings

KUWAIT, May 15, (KUNA): Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jaber received at his office Monday the Italian Ambassador to Kuwait Lucio Fortin.

Sheikh Nawaf also received the Canadian Ambassador to Kuwait Lawrence T. Dickenson.

Sheikh Nawaf exchanged fraternal talks and discussed issues of common interest with the two ambassadors.

Health seminar

THE United Malayales Organisation (UMO) will hold a health seminar with the participation of several specialised doctors at the Indian embassy auditorium on Thursday at 7.30 pm.

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with moderate north-westerly wind may freshen at times causing dust.

State of sea: moderate to high

High water: 9.24 am, 9.16 pm

Low water: 2.52 am, 2.37 pm

Sunrise: 4.55 am

Sunset: 6.34 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 39°C (102°F) Ahmedi: 35°C (97°F) Falkland: 36°C (97°F)

Minimum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 22°C (72°F) Ahmedi: 24°C (75°F) Falkland: 25°C (77°F)

Maximum temperatures expected: Kuwait: 39°C (102°F) Ahmedi: 35°C (97°F) Falkland: 36°C (97°F)

Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 12 per cent Ahmedi: 15 per cent

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Official talks at the Bayan Palace.

Identical views on many issues

KUWAIT, May 15, (KUNA): Sultan Qaboos Bin Saeed of Oman Monday called at 1.00 am on HH the Amir at the Bayan Palace where they held official talks.

The Omani side at the talks was led by Sultan Qaboos and the Kuwaiti side was headed by HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Minister of the Amiri Diwan Affairs said that the talks dealt with latest developments at the Gulf, Arab and international levels.

Sultan Qaboos later paid a visit to the National Museum, Islamic Heritage House and the Sadu House.

He was received by Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Ahmad, the ministry's undersecretary and other senior officials.

The Omani guest was accompanied by the mission of honour headed by Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmad.

Sultan Qaboos was presented with a token gift on the occasion. HH the Amir and supreme commander of the armed forces.



Sultan Qaboos signs the visitors book at the National Museum. In the presence of Sultan Qaboos with honour tomorrow, Wednesday the graduation ceremony of the 28th batch of cadet officers to be held at 9 am at the Military College.

Ahmadi Governorate safe and secure

AHMADI chief security officer Brigadier Naser Al Bader has said that the security situation in the governorate is satisfactory and appreciated the co-operation extended by the public to the police in maintaining a high level of law and order.

The governorate requires more personnel on the police force to meet the demand created by urban expansion process, including equipment and communication systems, the official said.

He added that the need for more security and police personnel is particularly essen-

tial since the governorate houses the largest and most vital national industries, whether these fall within the oil or non-oil sector.

All existing possibilities are employed to protect various public facilities in the governorate including beaches to prevent infiltration by sea. Special Coast Guard units patrol the country's territorial waters, Bader said.

He added that the coastline around the chalets has been fenced to keep intruders away. However some owners often com-

plain of thefts occurring in their chalets which are left unguarded. This is despite the fact special patrol units have been deployed to maintain law and order around the clock, the official said.

He pointed out that all farms in Ahmadi have been or will be removed to give way to the Quran Housing Project, which begins at Sabah Al Salem district up to Fintas. "If chalets should hamper the progress of the project they will also be removed," Bader said.

He stressed the importance of co-opera-

tion with security personnel to curb crime in the area, pointing out that public awareness is essential for this purpose, over and above the vigilance of the police force and their full-preparedness to cope with all states of emergency.

The governorate will publish announcements yearly warning people against hunting in locations close to vital installations, top-level security positions or densely populated areas, which have in the past resulted in many problems, Bader said.

Border ban on food

Cholera precaution

By Fathima Ahmed Arab Times staff

ALL travellers coming to Kuwait after June 1 will not be allowed to import perishable foodstuff, according to head of the Public Health Department at the Ministry of Health.

Dr Rashid Abdulaziz Al Owaisi told the Arab Times that a five-month "summer ban" on import of foodstuff will be imposed from June 1. People arriving by land or air will not be allowed to import perishable foodstuff and other items with them.

Travellers can't bring cooked food; all dairy products like milk, cheese, yoghurt; raw salted fish; dry salted fish; sweets in unsealed tins; unsealed bottles of mineral water; olives and figs; pickled vegetables; all green vegetables that are eaten raw.

Passengers will be allowed to

bring mangoes, honey, canned food, non-alcoholic beverages and frozen pigeons and birds.

Dr Rashid said the ban is only on people bringing such items in their baggage. Customs authorities at Kuwait Airport and border posts will confiscate the items that cannot be imported into Kuwait.

The summer ban is implemented every year since 1986, after a cholera outbreak the previous year. In 1985, there were 134 cholera cases in Kuwait. This prompted authorities to examine ways to prevent another outbreak. "We felt that by restricting perishable items, we could reduce the incidence of cholera," explained Dr Rashid.

The number of cholera cases reduced to 37, after the ban was introduced in 1986. There were four cholera cases in 1987 and only two last year.

Tough measures Less exam cheating this year

STUDENTS in the intermediate and secondary stages undergoing this year's final examinations, said that supervision during the examinations was more strict this year than in past years.

The Ministry of Education officials have warned cheaters of strict penalties and asked invigilators to be strict and prevent cheating. The ministry drive against what is described as "widespread" cheating began several years ago is taking a tougher stance every year.

Students interviewed by a local daily said that although supervision was strict this year, there were many attempts at cheating. Others said they didn't see any.

A student said that he did not expect invigilators to be so strict. They imposed order and totally stopped any attempt at cheating, the student added. Another student said that teachers supervising the exams caught a number of students cheating and the school administration suspended them.

A third student admitted a big change in the method of supervision, but students still cheated by talking to each other, and added that the use of crib sheet was totally stopped. Most of the students praised the standard of the questions saying that they were easy. They also said that this time they were afraid of cheating because of the Education Ministry threats.

Every year, a trade in what is called "examination chairs" used to prosper during the final exams. Some students used to take reduced photocopies of the whole study book and take them with them to the exam halls. Prices of such photocopies have been very high, mainly because it is unauthorised. Certain shops with photocopy machines run the business.

Over 220,000 students started their exams on May 10 and are due to finish tomorrow. Results are expected on May 20th. Meanwhile, over 20,000 high secondary students will appear on Tuesday, May 23, for the higher secondary examination.

BAHRAIN DIGEST

Commerce booming

THE private sector in Bahrain has been playing a pioneering role since the country's independence in 1971 in boosting the general economic development in all spheres, thanks to the government's increasingly liberal and flexible policies towards commercial growth, according to a leading Bahraini businessman.

Abdulnabi Al Sh'ala, a member of the board of Bahrain's Chamber of Commerce, highlighted the role and influence of the private sector in the overall economic success of Bahrain from the peak years of pearl fishing in the beginning of the century to the present time of a seminar held at the Sheraton hotel early this week.

Presenting a paper entitled "The expectations of the private sector and its role in the development of Bahrain" Al Sh'ala stressed that under the government's free economic system the private sector enjoys private initiative, legitimate competition and absolute freedom of private ownership.

He said the private sector contributed immensely to the country's economy during the "boom period" of the seventies in the wake of oil demand.

The completion of the major infrastructural projects, tremendous increase in the volume of trade and the development of the service sector were because of the "incessant" efforts of the private sector, he added.

Al Sh'ala, who is also the chairman of Falcon Publishing, emphasised that the private sector took the initiative long before the government to develop the tourism sector and pave the way for its current progress.

Reviewing Bahrain's tremendous growth as the financial banking centre of the region, Al Sh'ala said the private sector played a dynamic role in providing the necessary service to make the financial sector the backbone of the national economy. The upsurge of offshore and joint stock companies has also been attributed to this sector, he said.

Commenting on industrialisation, Al Sh'ala said that although the private sector's contribution to this field has been modest in the past, it is increasingly committing resources and skills to boost industrial projects by more active participation through the government's policy of "privatisation".

"The private sector believe that industrialisation is the basis of a continuous process for economic development. It is the best method to create and develop various investment opportunities and economic activities," said Al Sh'ala.

He called for the adoption of a strategy similar to the Saudi Economic Trade Programme with regards to industrialisation which will be beneficial to the private sector in Bahrain. Foreign companies should be encouraged to set up industrial projects in collaboration with private sector units in Bahrain so that the latter can immensely benefit from the technical, management and marketing expertise of the former.

The recently established stock exchange has been welcomed and widely expected to provide the private sector with medium and long term finance through institutional financing to enable it to play a greater role in the expanded economic activity.

According to Al Sh'ala the private sector in Bahrain calls for speedy implementation of all the clauses of the Joint Economic Agreement of the GCC, which will lead to the creation and development of a "Gulf Common Market".

The one-day seminar was held under the patronage of Tariq Almoayed, minister of information and chairman of the Development Information Committee. The paper was followed by comments from Habib Qassim, minister of commerce and agriculture, Rash Almeer, assistant undersecretary for economic affairs, Ali Al Saleh, member of the board of directors of Bahrain's Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Murder denial

THE recent death of a Jordanian national identified as Atteyah Ahmed Sulaiman Zainah, 50 years of age and reported as a murder has been denied by a senior official of the Al Sabah Hospital.

Dr Latifa Al Rujaiab said that the deceased, who was the porter's foreman at the hospital, suffered from high blood pressure and his death was caused by a heart failure.

An autopsy performed on the deceased determined the cause of death as cardiac arrest and ruled out any foul play.

Speaking to a local daily, Khatrash said that as per normal hospital procedures, the investigation office of the hospital had reported the death to Shuwaikh police station for completion of legal formalities.

Meanwhile, two local dailies have reported that cleanliness workers at Ibn Sina Hospital and Kidneys Centre at Sabah Health Area struck work last Sunday for 24 hours.

Sources said that the workers were protesting against their employer for non-payment of their wages for the past two months.

The strike was confined only to males, while women workers continued in their respective jobs.

The strike suspended services at Sabah Health Area and created bottlenecks for the surgical department at Ibn Sina Hospital as garbage piled along the corridors of the hospital.

Cuban envoy hails ties

KUWAIT, May 15, (KUNA): The Cuban ambassador here Monday praised the strong relations that tie his country with Kuwait particularly in the political, cultural and scientific fields.

Julio A. Imperatori, in a statement to the local press on the occasion of expiry of his diplomatic mission in Kuwait, said the two countries' relations have been progressing and developing very well since they were established on May 13, 1974.

He pointed to the agreements and protocols signed between Cuba and Kuwait concerning bilateral co-operation in sports, cultural and medical spheres, where, he said, many great achievements were obtained.

KD4 million provided to divorcees

DISCUSSION at the symposium on the problem of divorce held at the Plaza Hotel yesterday by the Social Service Centre at Kuwait University under the patronage of Sheikh Latifa Al Fahd, wife of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister dealt with a number of issues relating to the divorce problem in the country.

Dr Latifa Al Rujaiab recommended that there should be a continuous symposium all year round held in various locations for people to receive education on personal affairs.

She said, according to statistics 2,141 families received aid from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour in 1987 to the tune of KD4,006,000.000 while a total of 3,245 families received KD4,022,000.000 in 1988. Such aid is provided due to difficult circumstances created by divorce.

She pointed out that the ministry is currently intending to set up special offices to offer

counseling on family problems. One of the papers discussed at the symposium was submitted by the Jamal Ahmad Shihab of the Kuwait Lawyers Association, in which he recommended that marital problems should be "nipped-in-the-bud." When things get out of hand, the matter should be brought to the attention of the court, he added.

Another paper submitted by the representative of the Ministry of Planning Khader Al Qabandi indicated that the divorce rate in the country was on the constant increase since 1967 upto 1987, reaching 197.1 per cent among Kuwaitis and 160.1 per cent among non-Kuwaitis.

The paper pointed out that despite the rise in marriage rates among both categories, divorce rates among Kuwaitis was higher than among non-Kuwaitis.

Subhi Yousef Al Mulla, from the National

Housing Authority, said in his paper that in case the applicant for a government house should divorce his wife, after submission of his application, the house allocated would be intended to accommodate the new wife and the old at the same time.

If the divorced woman had children and could not be possibly put up at her parents residence or her husband, she would be provided with accommodations at a rented house with the cost paid by the NHA, Mulla said.

Dr Fahd Al Naser of the Department of Sociology, Kuwait University continued a paper in which he maintained that the major reasons for the rise in divorce rate was the economic independence of women, the increase in incompatible matches, marriages of couples from unrelated cultures and marriages of old people to younger unmarried wives, including abstaining from having children until late after marriage.

Kuwait-Egypt talks focus on investment

Enhancing fruitful co-operation

CAIRO, May 15, (KUNA): Kuwait's Finance Minister Mohammed Jasssem Al Kharafi Monday conveyed to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak a message from HH the Amir.

Kharafi told reporters, after meeting the President, that he also conveyed greetings of Kuwait's Amir, government and people.

The minister said that he will carry back home President Mubarak's constant keenness to follow up Gulf developments in particular.

Kharafi told KUNA that his meeting with Mubarak was an opportunity to discuss developing bilateral economic and cultural ties and means of boosting joint investment activities.

He pointed to the President's interest in bolstering such ties and to his directives in this respect and added that he briefed the head of state on the agreement to be signed between the two countries later tonight on protection and encouragement of investment.

Mubarak affirmed importance of enhancing fruitful and constructive co-operation between the two countries, Kharafi elaborated.

Asked about his meeting earlier today with Deputy Premier and Minister of Planning and International Co-operation Kamal Al Ganzouri, Kharafi said that a review of joint economic activity was made.

They exchanged views on past ventures and means of benefiting from the positive elements and avoiding the negative ones, surfacing during execution.

The minister said that he raised the issue of Kuwaiti owners of real estate in Egypt so that they could end problem of registering their property.

He lauded Kuwaiti-Egyptian economic relations and affirmed that Kuwait was among the major pioneer countries investing in Egypt, based on its conviction of feasibility of such investments and importance of co-operation with Egypt in view of its weight in the Arab world.

Kharafi said that discussions also dealt with establishment of permanent economic and investment projects and added that the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development was prepared to study any ventures proposed by Cairo.

He noted that the proposals will be studied and programmed according to the KFAED available potentials but did not say whether Egypt had tabled any new loan requests.

Kharafi said that the fund recently signed two loan agreements with Egypt that were not utilised yet.

Service officials meet

A SESSION of discussions started in Abu Dhabi today between officials of ministries and service authorities at GCC states and officials at Abu Dhabi Municipality.

The director of Abu Dhabi Municipality, Ahmad Asad Al Karim started the session with a speech in which he highlighted the duties and specialities of municipality sections, the role played by the municipal council, and the developments in Abu Dhabi City.

A number of issues on the duties of the services co-ordination committee and systems implemented in roads sewage system in Abu Dhabi were also reviewed during the meeting.

The meeting also discussed the co-ordination ties between the municipality and the cities planning department also other roads services aspects.

The transportation and housing consultant at the GCC general secretariat, Waleed Ghaleb stated that this meeting will have positive results on services at states in the region. He pointed that the meeting will open new co-operation ties between GCC states.

Another report from the emirates said that a total of 345,930 passengers departed Dubai International Airport during last April. The air shipment amounted to 11,369,000 kilograms during the same month.

A statistical report published by the Dubai Civil Aviation department pointed out that 102,658 passengers departed from the airport, in addition to 111,033 passengers arrivals during the same month of last year. The total air shipments amounted to 3,898,348 kilograms during the same period last year.

PSC applications

THE Bangladesh Public Service Commission (PSC) has invited applications for filling in various vacant posts in the civil services cadre. Candidates will be selected through a competitive examination, which will be held in September, 1989. Forms and syllabus will be available from next week, on payment, at the Bangladesh Embassy in Kuwait. The last date of receipt of applications by the PSC is June 10, 1989.

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JASIM Y. HOMAIZI

Ration cards will stay

THERE are no plans at present to cancel the existing ration card system, according to Ali Salem Abu Hadidah, chairman of Co-operative Societies Union.

The system of appointing the board of directors at co-operative societies has been formulated in conjunction with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and the Co-operative Societies Union, the official said.

He added that the system is used for sorting some problems that might occur in some co-

operative societies. However, this system should not supersede the electoral system.

The system is applicable at four co-operative societies — Al Shaab, Bayan, Mishref and Al Surrah.

The union actively participates in organising training courses for employees of co-operative societies. In this respect, a cultural course will begin tomorrow designed for heads of accounts departments, Hadidah said.

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The management, principal, staff and students of
The New Indian School, Jabriya,
express their deepest condolences to
Dr K.T.B. Menon
on the sad demise of
Mrs Menon

May her soul rest in peace

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE tongue can no man tame; It is an unruly evil — The Bible.

Democracy fails to satisfy hunger

Latin America still suffering

By Bernd Debusmann

A DECADE of democratic advances has given more freedom to millions of Latin Americans but failed to fill their empty bellies and dashed many of their hopes.

Over the past 10 years, 10 Latin American countries with a population of some 250 million switched from military rule to representative government. No other region of the world has seen such a dramatic expansion of democracy in recent history.

The democratic wave rolls on. Nine countries on the continent are holding elections this year. And barring unforeseen upsets, even Chile and Paraguay — long islands of dictatorships in a democratic sea — will have freely-elected governments by the end of 1989.

But despite such gains, there is a growing groundswell of disappointment and frustration with the result of democratic rule. In most of Latin America, there is more poverty, misery and hunger now than 10 years ago.

"The smokescreen of the electoral fiesta cannot dissipate the hunger and suffering of thousands," Bishop Julio Terraza told a meeting of Bolivia's Roman Catholic hierarchy. "Once the noise (of electioneering) is over, frustrations may be even deeper."

The bishop was referring to Bolivia, the poorest country in South America, but his observation applies to the entire continent and much of the Caribbean.

In none of the new democracies have political leaders been able to fulfil the hopes they raised when they ran for elections. More social equality, better health care, more jobs, lower inflation, an end to political violence and war have largely remained empty promises.

"The euphoria of the early 1980s has gone," said a Latin American official. "People have learned that democracy is no miracle cure for the ills of our countries or for the problems we inherited from the military."

Political and economic analyses agree that the new democracies inherited major problems and that they have been hampered in solving them by several factors beyond their control, including low prices for the region's main exports.

Judging from conversations with Latin Americans from all walks of life across the continent, democracy still enjoys widespread support and only a small minority would prefer a return to authoritarian rule.

But in some countries, growing numbers of disgruntled citizens feel their elected representatives simply have not done as much as they could have.

Guatemala, which joined the democratic fold in 1986, is a case in point. When Vinicio Cerezo became the country's first civilian president in 16 years, hopes ran high for an end to political murders and disappearances.

But three years later, a report by the Washington-based Council on Hemispheric Affairs, a private US think-tank, said Guatemala still had Latin America's worst human rights record, although violence had declined from pre-democracy levels.

In El Salvador, successive elections have failed to end a savage civil war which has already claimed 70,000 lives. Indeed, fighting increased after presidential elections in March won by the far right.

European diplomats in El Salvador say democracy has brought so little benefit to most Salvadoreans that the concept is rapidly losing all meaning.

According to a recent study by the International Labour Organisation, Latin Americans will need another decade just to return to the purchasing power their incomes had in 1980, when the democratic wave began to spread.

Experts estimate that around 130 million Latin Americans live in poverty now. By the year 2000, according to a study by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America, that number will have risen to 170 million.

In what has become known as "the lost decade" in economic terms, the buying power of the minimum wage nosedived throughout Latin America, with cuts of more than 50 per cent in some countries.

In Peru, real wages fell from a base of 100 in 1979 — when the military ruled — to 48.3 in December 1988. In the same period, the percentage of Peruvians living in extreme poverty rose from 27 to 32. In Argentina unemployment almost trebled under elected leaders.

Such statistics translate into human misery on a huge scale. For the poor, hunger is a daily fact of life. Malnutrition is a major killer of babies throughout Latin America, medical care is inadequate, and social security the exception rather than the rule.

Politicians blame much of the economic misery on the crushing burden of repaying Latin America's foreign debt, now estimated at more than \$240 billion.

But many Latin Americans suspect that poor government, inefficient industries, widespread corruption and bureaucratic inertia are as much to blame as the debt. In addition, there is a perception that democratic governments have not done enough to make structural changes.

"Democracy will not lead to anything without a new soul and a new dynamism," Bishop Alfredo Gregorio of Brazil said recently.

In Brazil, Latin America's biggest country, churchmen feel that the principle of one person, one vote has little meaning unless the skewed distribution of income is changed.

According to the Planning Ministry, 51 million Brazilians earn two per cent of the national income while the richest one million earn 18 per cent. Half the country's population lives in what the ministry describes as "precarious conditions."

Casimiro Filio, a salesman in Guatemala City, recently summed up his view of democracy with a comment which reflected the feelings of many Latin Americans.

"What has democracy done for me? Very little — apart from the freedom to complain about all the things that are going wrong." (Reuters — Mexico City)

By Ahmed Al Jarallah

WHEN one visits Bahrain, one can't miss the fast pace at which development in every aspect is taking place in this country. As usual, I found myself here surrounded with people of advanced political thought that may not provide hard information itself as much it opened horizons for the thought. At this important juncture of Arab history, when we are awaiting an important Arab summit, and have recently noticed the formation of Arab alliances, it was indeed the proper time to visit the Prime Minister of Bahrain, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman to inquire about details on the future. I put before him all what I had in mind and as usual he answered with candour. He made honest proposals he saw necessary for the future of the Gulf and the Arab world as a whole.

Sheikh Khalifa bears for his country, Bahrain, great feelings of affection. He believes that his country will be the window of the whole region to the outside world.

Q: Your Highness, how do you see the future of the Gulf economy?

A: The smell of change is strong now. Every one can smell it. But it is important that these changes emerge in a comfortable political atmosphere in the Gulf. We in the Gulf have several political issues. Some of them have been solved, some others are still outstanding and are left to time and tensions erupt from time to time on some others. Solutions in one way or the other must be available for the last type of issues, in order for governments of this region to be able to devote full time for economic issues and more accurately for development plans.

In this respect one thing remains, which is the military fear which usually arises with increasing tensions. This is economically very expensive to any of the GCC member states, with the exception of course of the military co-ordination between the GCC states for defensive purposes.

While calling for solutions to all outstanding issues, we also want that military fear should not cost. We do not want it to be a pressing disturbing factor hanging over our heads. We, inside the Gulf house, should solve our outstanding problems, or at least leave them to time and forget that we have any problems until suitable conditions prevail and we are ready to face and settle them.

Q: But Your Highness according to latest news reports Bahrain has asked for arms from Washington?

A: Yes we have asked for arms. As I have said before money should preferably be spent on development needs. It is the military fear that is consuming a major part of our income, at a time when this money could be important service in development projects.

Q: Your Highness, back to the first question, what are your predictions for the Gulf economy? Why do you say so?

A: The economic situations in the region has greatly improved from what it was during the Gulf war. Now after the war has stopped, things have improved, including an improvement in oil prices. Added to this improvement in the world economy reflects itself on our economies. Through these positive indications, the Gulf countries, particularly the GCC states, could benefit after the state of recession and stagnation has disappeared. Governments and individuals have suffered greatly. We now feel that the



The Prime Minister of Bahrain, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman.

situation is better, and economic activities can achieve its goals towards achieving more prosperity.

Q: Your Highness, could you elaborate further on this point. How should the economies perform their roles now that the recession is over. Should everything depend on governments or on the private sector?

A: The role at this stage is the role of individuals, the private sector. The opportunity before them is great. Let's admit that the private sector was greatly affected during the stage where there was no trust. It was not possible for us to ask miracles from them. The private sector, under the circumstances that it passed through have their own calculations. After the removal of adverse factors, the private sector is required to move more effectively and utilise the opportunities available to them.

We in the GCC states, should arrive at a kind of economic co-ordination among ourselves and make arrangements to protect our establishments from competition by providing it a monopoly status, if necessary. This is because they are establishments owned by individuals, particularly the shareholding companies. Take for example, Gulf Air. I have always wished it had no competition and that any competitor should enter as a partner with it in order to control the markets and thus create better business.

I have said and I repeat that private establishments should move and get out of its lazy stage when there was no stability in the region. The chance now is great. There are many opportunities available, particularly if the GCC states succeeded in reaching economic co-ordination among themselves like starting joint ventures after studying the size of the markets and export possibilities.

Q: Your Highness, how do you see Bahrain determine the resources of your economy?

A: Naturally, we are not an oil country, like other GCC states. We mainly depend upon services and partly on oil revenues. In addition to this, we are now developing the tourism industry. On the other hand, within alliances like that of the GCC, the situations of the weaker partner

An Arab Times Exclusive

Visas for GCC expatriate residents will be easily available: Sheikh Khalifa

Plans under way to make Bahrain a tourist centre

because of simple reasons and motivations?

A: Yes, this happens. The interlinkage of GCC member states in terms of national interests and making the national markets open to GCC citizens and activities could cause hindrance when they run against the interests of the individual or that of a small group of any GCC member. It is my belief that this is the most undesirable result, as the interests of a small group of citizens should not get in the way of national interests. As I mentioned earlier, when we disagree about something, it should not affect the nature of our relations and feelings for one another. There are so many issues that time can sort out, however the interlinkage of national interests should not stop or be affected by difficult issues.

I wish here to emphasise that we have to move forward. Both establishments and individuals must perform their duties on GCC national land. This will require co-ordination based on market demand.

This will also encourage the establishment of industries commensurate in volume with the local market demand. So, for instance, if a certain industry is set up in Bahrain, there would be no need for a similar industry somewhere else if the production could meet the demand at the GCC level. This goes for Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other GCC members, whereby no industrial duplication would be possible and all industries available would cater to the demands of other national markets.

What we aspire to attain is self-sufficiency in the area at the economic level whereby no country would suffer from security instability due to an economic difficulty.

Q: Your Highness — we are speaking about the Arab Co-operation Council set up recently —

A: Let there be more such councils. However they will remain different in their nature from that of the GCC. This is so as the GCC — enjoys — numerous privileges, the national legislatures have remained intact for many years now, traditions have successfully survived all hazards, the social texture of the peoples in the area is homogeneous and they all share a more or less satisfactory economic situation. Nevertheless, the development of such Arab entities is a positive thing that would eventually yield good results and perform well in the political arena. We therefore feel it is necessary to establish clear-cut channels for co-ordination and co-operation with these entities.

Q: What are your expectations about the extraordinary Arab summit meeting due to be held in Morocco later this month?

A: There are many positive aspects for the proposed Arab summit, topped by Egypt's return to take part in the activities of the Arab body, a thing we have always been calling for. Egypt's absence from Arab summits is abnormal. Among other positive factors for the summit, is the availability of an Arab consensus to end the bloodshed in Lebanon, which has become a cause of shame and must be stopped. There is also the Palestinian cause which has been strengthened by the intifada. It is currently leaving many positive changes that are welcomed by the world. Such changes need a green light from the Arab countries.

Q: But there are some joint ventures and other economic projects between the GCC that got stuck

about the authenticity of the information he has provided to the readers of the Arab Times, which clearly show his malafide intentions against Pakistan and its peaceful nuclear programme.

There is no doubt that Dr A.Q. Khan is an asset to the entire Muslim world. It is also no secret that the Indo-Jewish lobby has been conspiring against Pakistan's nuclear programme for a long time.

One wonders how Mr Sulehry received his information regarding the "abandonment" of the tight security around Dr Qadeer and the "postponement" of the satellite Badar, as such information is regarded as the defence secrets of a country. May be Mr Sulehry has relied on some rag newspaper of Pakistan, or perhaps he has his own secret sources of information on such delicate matters. Is it as one suspects, the same Indo-Jewish lobby that Mr Sulehry has quoted in his letter?

Mr Sulehry also warns of the lessons of two previous wars, but he has conveniently forgot-

ten to mention the lessons of three martial laws in forty years which have hampered the political stability of the country. He should look for weaknesses in the context of the autocratic rule of our corrupt generals.

by talking to the Pakistan and Indian embassies here in Kuwait. Maybe the embassy officials, if they can get away from all the functions they seem to be attending these days, can help you correct the balance of your stories.

Saqib Khalil Hassanawi

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Q: The war between Iraq and Iran has ended and no one is interested in its resumption. Both Iran and Iraq have suffered a lot from the war, with the difference that Iraq showed courage in defending its territories. Many still remember that, especially the vast military operations through which Iraq restored the Faw. These people now look in admiration to the success of the Iraqi military school.

The main issue here is that the war is a hated issue. The Iranian people themselves must have hated it, and do not want to see it resume — once more. Moreover, through the happenings in the world and according to what we know, it has been proved that Iran did not get the weapons it wanted, and is certainly facing difficulties in securing it. Even if we suppose Iran got the weapons it wanted, it will still take a very long time for training and thus I personally rule out the resumption of the Iraq-Iran war. At the same time, Iraq would remain ready to face any possibility, if things outside normal calculations takes place.

It is important for the Iranian political leadership to be stable in order to be able to sign a peace agreement with Iraq, an agreement which will completely rule out any bad blood or any expectations that may create tension and fear.

Q: Your Highness, how do you see the future of relations with Iran?

A: Iran is a country of this region. It is our neighbour, and there should be good mutual relations with Iran. But all this required good intentions. With the presence of good intentions, everything can be arranged. With good intentions, Iran can reach at the best of relations, which have become necessary to spread the feeling of trust and stability in the region. Such good relations would benefit all sides. I would like to stress here that time alone can reveal good intentions and with the lapse of time, relations which should be established with Iran, will gradually come about at the best level, like the relations between all neighbouring countries or those sharing the same region in the world.

Letters to the Editor

by talking to the Pakistan and Indian embassies here in Kuwait. Maybe the embassy officials, if they can get away from all the functions they seem to be attending these days, can help you correct the balance of your stories.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1568 — Mary Queen of Scots takes refuge in England.
- 1596 — Spanish stronghold of La Fere capitulates to French.
- 1770 — Marie Antoinette is wed to France's King Louis XVI.
- 1796 — Lombardic Republic is established in Italy.
- 1804 — Napoleon Bonaparte is proclaimed emperor of the French senate and tribune.
- 1811 — British forces halt drive of French under Nicholas Soult at Albuera, Spain.
- 1907 — Pact of Cartagena between Britain, France and Spain to counter German designs on Balearic and Canary Islands.
- 1932 — Japan's Premier Tsuyoshi Inuka is assassinated in Tokyo.
- 1962 — US Marines begin arriving in Thailand to help defend that country against communist threat in neighbouring Laos.
- 1963 — Chief Enahoro of Nigeria is deported from Britain; India-Pakistan talks on Kashmir break down.
- 1969 — Soviet space ship reaches vicinity of planet Venus and drops capsule that sends back information on planet's atmosphere.
- 1976 — Civil war in Lebanon reaches new peak of violence with scores of people killed in fighting between Christians and Muslims in Beirut.
- 1979 — Police in El Salvador seal off capital after 10 days of violence by anti-government terrorists takes 44 lives.
- 1987 — Leader of military coup in Fiji calls for new constitution to prevent an Indian-dominated government from ever ruling Fiji.
- 1988 — Security forces step up pressure on Sikh extremists holed up in Golden Temple in Amritsar, India.

Aping Western culture

SIR: After returning to Britain from the Gulf, circumstances compel me to write this letter.

Having stayed in Gulf for many years, and as my husband's job entailed travelling, I saw and lived in a great many places and met people of different cultures, both Islamic and Asian.

In all these "wonderful years" I was often alone, but never felt insecure, rarely even locked the doors. I walked alone at night, drove home late and returned very late from parties, without slightest fear.

An atmosphere of peace and serenity prevailed. No strain lines or wrinkles of tension, anxiety or uneasiness were found either in my family's faces or of my numerous friends from various nationalities. There was a sense of eternal joy. A bonhomie atmosphere prevailed.

Since my final return to

Britain, I find a tremendous chasm between two different worlds.

I have a constant dread of opening my own front door every time the bell rings when I am alone. Two neighbours were molested and robbed during the day. My friend's grandmother, aged 78, was raped. So have been 12 other elderly ladies staying alone, and the maniac still prowls free.

My husband was robbed while commuting, and he lost not only a lot of money but valuable documents. He religiously phones twice a day to find out if everything is OK, and chastises me often "This is not the Gulf!"

Every time I switch on the TV stories of murder, violence, sex abuse, rampant child abuse, you name it, we have it. It's all there including the menace of AIDS, environmental pollution, radiation and now even eggs full of salmonella. All this in a short span of seven months.

I strongly advise friends in the Middle East, please do not follow Western culture, our

thinking, or our methods in the name of so-called progress. They all lead to a vicious circle of doom.

The respect, the dignity and the grace with which you live and treat your elders and friends is lacking in this selfish rat race here. You have the greatest wealth...a wonderful culture. Nurture it, cultivate it, teach it to the rest of the world. Don't lose it or barter it for our way of life.

My teen-age daughter who had a host of friends in the Gulf, cried for weeks after her first evening out. She was shocked at what she saw and what could have happened to her!

This is a wonderful world. Keep it that way.

Betty Dougall, Hampshire, England.

Misleading information

SIR: I refer to a letter published in your newspaper (AT, May 11) by M.S. Sulehry. I venture to ask the author

BUSINESS & FINANCE

We will see an enormous draw from the West: Galvin

Officials fear Soviets will get more Western military technology

PARIS, May 15, (AP): The warming climate between East and West has created new opportunities for the Soviet Union to acquire, legally and illegally, the West's most sensitive military technology.

As trade with the Soviet Union grows, involving more people and channels, it becomes harder for Western nations to police what technology goes to Moscow. And Western governments charged with protecting secret technology are disagreeing about how much they really need to limit trade.

American officials say the Soviets spend at least \$1 billion a year to obtain Western technology and often will pay more than three times market value for something they want.

Analysts say the Soviets obtain high

technology with the help of unscrupulous Western businessmen who may acquire the goods legally, then divert them to the East illegally. Soviet agents get other material through espionage.

The diversions are taking place in the more relaxed atmosphere created by Mikhail S. Gorbachev's peace and disarmament overtures, which have altered Western perceptions of the Soviet threat.

Edge

"There is no sign that Soviet efforts have diminished, and evidence is that they are increasing," said William Waldgrave, Britain's Deputy Foreign Secretary.

Francois Heisbourg, head of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London, said losses now may surpass

those of the late 1970s, when Soviet agents penetrated key ministries in France and West Germany.

"We will see an enormous draw from the West," said Gen. John Galvin, the American who commands NATO forces in Europe. "We'll probably lose the technological edge we've had for decades."

The United States and 16 allies belong to the Co-ordinating Committee on Multilateral Export Controls, known as COCOM, which tries to stem the flow of sensitive military goods to the Soviet bloc.

Stephen Bryen, former US Deputy Undersecretary of Defence for Trade Security, estimated Western businessmen smuggled items worth up to \$2 billion to the Soviet East in 1988.

Analysts say recent diversions and thefts have allowed Soviet engineers to

make more accurate missiles, quieter submarines and stronger aircraft wings, and to clone advanced computers they might have taken years to develop.

They say the Soviets also are acquiring such new battlefield technology as helicopter weapons systems and tank armour, and Western experts worry that the trend to greater trade between East and West will increase the flow.

"There is no question they are... on a path toward getting more technology," said Richard Perle, a former top Pentagon official who championed export controls. "We certainly gave away a lot during détente, and this looks like a rerun."

Gorbachev's ambitious plan to modernise the Soviet economy has created intense interest in Western business circles.

Dozens of Western companies are entering joint ventures that eventually may offer Soviet consumers a variety and quantity of goods and services not available now. Joint ventures also may provide Western technology, money and management expertise Gorbachev sorely needs.

Some Western allies urge caution lest such co-operation allow the Soviets to concentrate its scarce resources on defence projects, but others want to help Gorbachev's liberalisation programme.

"In view of the great economic problems confronting the Soviet Union, as well as its process of restructuring, a Western readiness for co-operation in the economic sector is strongly needed, not least in our own interest," West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said recently.

Diverters of high-tech find ways around rules

'It's a race without a finish line'

BRUSSELS, Belgium, May 15, (AP): Late last year, Dutch businessman Francis Govaerts travelled to Boston to supervise the packing of \$1.4 million worth of high-technology equipment he had ordered from Teradyne Inc.

Was Govaerts just a nervous buyer worried about his fragile cargo? The US Customs Service says no. Its allegations say he was making sure Teradyne would abide by a bargain to mislabel the boxes so they could be exported illegally to Bulgaria in the Soviet bloc.

The boxes contained equipment for testing and repairing computer chips that can be used in personal computers, video games and missile guidance systems.

Teradyne participated in an undercover "sting" operation. Govaerts was arrested and charged with violating federal export laws.

Western officials say the export of militarily sensitive goods is difficult to control, and some liken the flow to narcotics traffic.

"To completely stop it is impossible," said Viktor Jacobson, the US customs attaché in Bonn, West Germany.

Roger Urbanek, who heads the US customs office in Vienna, said "it's a race without a finish line" because of rapid technological advances.

Over the years, legally or illegally, the Soviets and their allies have obtained billions of dollars worth of sensitive technology.

Analysts say the acquisitions have aided Soviet research and development efforts, enabling them to devote scarce resources to other areas.

A CIA report said the Kremlin captures high technology through an espionage programme run by the Soviet military industrial commission and an illegal trade operation in the Foreign Trade Ministry.

It said most of the ministry's programme involves Western traders under contract to the Soviets.

When the suspects in the Boston case pressed ahead with the order despite legal problems, authorities said, Teradyne grew suspicious of their persistence and notified the Customs Service.

Officials said they have been alerted to other cases by competing companies, disgruntled employees, intelligence services and random checks of export shipments.

One investigator was tipped to a case when he overheard an exporter boasting in a Belgian bar about how easy it was to divert high technology, officials said. He learned that the bargainer operated two German "front", or dummy companies.

G. Jonart, head of Belgium's customs investigations, recalled that a spot check of goods being shipped through Belgium uncovered a scheme to divert US computer equipment worth about \$100,000 to Bulgaria.

Requests from the Soviets to their contacts for sensitive technology usually are detailed, officials said.

Karpov was referring to a former defence worker in Florida who called the Soviet embassy to offer plans. FBI agents on the line arrested him.

But one ranking Pentagon official said privately that the Soviets are "getting more than ever. They've come up with ways to pull together systems from separate directions."

He said the US Commerce Department recently granted export licences to Austria for three apparently unrelated components, none seen as sensitive on its own. Together, they allowed the Soviets to make advanced fibre optics.

"All they needed was a little piece of software to make it all hum, but commerce did not see the overall context," the Pentagon official said.

CIA estimates say the Soviet military industrial commission obtained 30,000 pieces of hardware and 400,000 technical documents between 1976 and 1980.

Egypt cuts oil prices

LONDON, May 15, (Reuters): Egypt cut its oil prices on the eve of a meeting it will host in London of exporters from outside OPEC which are trying to help the organisation stabilise prices.

Market analysts said they saw signs of mutual suspicion between the group and OPEC over how far promised supply curbs on both sides are actually being implemented.

A weakening market, after a recent rally, led the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation to cut quotes by 75 cents bringing its Suez blend of crude oil down to \$17 a barrel. Egypt usually sets its prices twice a month.

Tomorrow's talks at the Egyptian embassy in London bring together officials, but not ministers, of several oil sellers from outside the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Besides Egypt, they include the Soviet Union — biggest producer — Colombia, China, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman, all of which had pledged to shave exports by five per cent in the current April-June quarter to help OPEC buoy prices.

According to Mexico's official news agency, Notimex, they will examine allegations that some OPEC members are guilty of "lack of discipline" and have exceeded their own organisation-assigned sales quotas, thus putting pressure on prices.

But sources close to the non-OPEC group said it would also have to assess how far its own export cuts were having effect.

Officials of several nations, including the Soviet Union, say this is "more by coincidence than design."

It said today that voluntary restraint by Malaysia and Oman took 50,000 barrels per day (BPD) off the market and sabotage to a Colombian pipeline cut 100,000 BPD.

But it said that output was in any case declining in Mexico and China and that for Angola and Egypt "the agreed-upon restrictions were based on overstated output."

The non-OPEC sources said it was unlikely the talks would go far towards deciding what to do beyond the expiry of the group's present curbs at the end of June, since OPEC itself would only be setting its own output ceiling for the second half of the year at a meeting in Vienna on June 5.

Washington-based analyst with London-based brokers, KPMG, said Arab oil producers would be reluctant to commit themselves to shut in oil indefinitely.

The Soviet Union officially takes part in non-OPEC meetings as an observer. Other observers include Norway, Canada's province of Alberta, and the Texas Railroad Commission which monitors the Texas oil industry.

Norway operates its own policy of support for OPEC, braking the expansion of its North Sea oil output. It says it will review this after the June 5 OPEC meeting.

Economy staggers under inflation, debt

Dealers thriving despite numerous arrests

KHARTOUM, May 15, (Reuters): Sudan's economy is going from bad to worse amid inflation, debt and crippling war costs as Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi starts his fourth year in power, diplomats said.

"The economic situation is grim and dim," said a senior Western diplomat in Africa's largest country.

Inflation has doubled to about 80 per cent since Mahdi came to power in May 1986 and looks set to rise as the government borrows to finance budget deficits, Khartoum-based Western economists said.

The Sudanese pound has slumped from an official 2.5 to the dollar in 1986 to 4.5 and is trading on the black market this week at more than 20 to the dollar.

In October the government introduced a parallel official rate of 12.2 pounds to the dollar, aiming to lure remittances from Sudanese working abroad into the banking system.

But economists said 80 per cent of remittances, which amount to \$1 million a day, are still handled by the black market. Dealers are thriving despite

numerous arrests, including 30 last week under emergency laws.

Khartoum's estimated four million people wrestle with acute shortages of fuel, sugar and bread, also widely traded on the black market.

"Nothing is in short supply in Khartoum if you are prepared to pay a fortune," said a Western diplomat.

The armed forces need an estimated \$1 million a day to keep at bay the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), which aims to end what it sees as domination of the Islamist or Christian south by the Muslim north.

The six-year-old conflict prevents Sudan exploiting its only commercial oil find in the southern Nile region.

Finance Minister Omar Nour Al Dayem said last week the war was partly responsible for increased government borrowing from the Central Bank.

Economists said borrowing, which in effect meant printing money, had reached \$3 billion (\$670 million) since the current fiscal year began on July 1.

Nour Al Dayem said the government also needed to borrow to pay for wage rises

agreed in December at a cost of \$2 billion (\$450 million).

The government had planned to finance these with price and tax rises, but backed down in the face of a nation-wide strike and street protests early this year.

Sudan, with a population of 25 million, has not fully serviced its foreign debt of nearly \$14 billion since the early 1980s.

"We are getting close to a situation like some Latin American countries," said the senior Western diplomat.

Several attempts by Mahdi to introduce economic reforms suggested by the International Monetary Fund have failed for political reasons.

Several major Western donors are considering limiting their assistance to Sudan to humanitarian aid, mostly to the famine-stricken population of the south, diplomats said.

The United Nations has said 100,000 people could starve to death this year unless food from international relief organisations continues to reach them.

Sudan's agricultural output, potentially one of the world's richest, was hit by floods and drought last year as well as war.

Prices soaring Frustration, violence and strikes hit Guyana

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, May 15, (AP): Although it has bountiful resources, including gold and diamonds, Guyana is in the throes of one of the worst economic declines in the developing world.

Its 750,000 people face chronic shortages of electricity, water, transportation, fuel and food. Jobs are scarce, prices are soaring. A gallon (3.8 litres) of milk costs the equivalent of \$3, triple the average daily wage. The only thriving economic sector is the black market.

Frustration is giving way to violence and strikes.

Fearing riots similar to those that killed 176 people in neighbouring Venezuela this year, Guyana's military is on alert. The unrest here is simmering at its worst since race riots left hundreds dead in the mid-1960s.

The World Bank estimates Guyana, a former British colony on South America's northeast shoulder and the continent's only English-speaking nation, has had the worst economic decline in the Third World over the past decade.

"We have sunk almost to the bottom of the table, perhaps just above Haiti and Bolivia," the independent daily the Starbrook News commented recently.

Debt

Guyana has had virtually no economic growth in 10 years and in the mid-1980s suspended payments on its foreign debt, now \$1.9 billion. Western creditors have stopped most aid to the country.

Not only does Guyana have a big foreign debt for its size — 83,000 square miles (215,000 square kms) — it also has no foreign exchange reserves. It has borrowed \$1 billion just to keep foreign currencies on hand for emergencies.

Last year, when the government needed more local currency — the Guyanese dollar — it simply printed it.

Without hard currencies such as the US dollar, Guyana can't afford to import parts or buy technology, leaving its infrastructure — road, bridges, sewers, electric and water treatment plants — to deteriorate.

This, coupled with an exodus of the skilled workers and poor production of its three major exports — sugar, bauxite and rice — contribute to the slump.

Western creditors want an IMF agreement before giving Guyana new aid. So on March 31, Hoyte imposed a three-year IMF programme that devalued Guyana's currency by 70 per cent, doubled interest rates to 35 per cent and triggered 300 per cent price hikes.

To soften the blow, the government gave state workers a 20 per cent pay increase. But that's small change for salaries that dropped in value to \$1 a day from \$2.50 as a result of the devaluation.

Energy ministers to meet

Meeting to call for greenhouse cleanup

PARIS, May 15, (Reuters): Western energy ministers meeting later this month will call for more efficient use of energy to curb emissions of carbon dioxide and other gases that may be warming the atmosphere, officials said.

This will accelerate political momentum to put environmental issues, particularly the likely 'greenhouse effect' atmospheric warming, at the top of the agenda for the July economic summit of Western leaders and Japan, they said.

Twenty-one energy ministers meet on May 30 at the Paris headquarters of the International Energy Agency (IEA), the West's energy watchdog.

This will be followed by a two-day annual meeting of the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) during which finance ministers will discuss the economic cost of a world environmental cleanup.

"These problems will be considered along more precise lines in the economic summit of July," said one senior official.

Scientists say the risks of damage to the earth's protective upper atmosphere from gases such as carbon dioxide requires urgent government action.

But so far rich nations have rejected calls to help pay the

cleaning bill, despite interest in the 'green' cause by world leaders such as US President George Bush and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Carbon dioxide is pumped into the air from the simplest wood fire to coal-fired power stations.

"An enormous investment programme has to be installed. This can only be employed if Western industrialised countries are willing to help with technology, education and massive financial support," West German energy expert Gunter Zimmermann said in a report to a closed session of 200 scientists here last month.

The meeting was called by the IEA and OECD to pool data on greenhouse gases.

"On this issue, the OECD and IEA are working closely together," IEA director of research Sergio Garbiba said.

"The ministers want to propose something new."

According to documents from the meeting, members of the Group of Seven industrialised nations (G-7) are among the world's top 15 polluters who account for 80 per cent of greenhouse gases. G-7 groups the United States, Japan, West Germany, Italy, Canada, Britain and France.

Growing faith in the US economy and an apparently insatiable appetite for dollars in the currency markets had analysts discussing the prospect of a two-mark dollar soon.

Central banks lost a crucial battle on Friday when repeated rounds of concerted and heavy intervention failed to harness the buoyant dollar's strength, setting the scene for today's powerful advances.

"The short term target is a move to 1.950 marks. A break through 1.950 would change the long term trend completely and set up an objective of 2.30," said Phil Roberts, a chartist at Midland Bank in London.

The dollar touched 1.9420 marks and 137.20 yen early morning in thin business compared to Friday's closes in London of 1.9140 and 135.62. The dollar has now risen 10 per cent against the mark since the start of the year.

Most of Europe was shut today for a Whit holiday with just Britain and Italy open so business was scant.

Earlier in Asia, the Bank of Japan repeatedly intervened in skirmishes against the dollar but apparently to no avail.

"I can't see the Bank of

England and the Bank of Italy succeeding today when combined and heavy intervention by all of G-7 on Friday failed," one trader said. G-7 groups the United States, Japan, Canada, Italy, West Germany, France and Britain.

European nations particularly argue that a strong dollar is fuelling inflation and causing trade tensions.

The US Federal Reserve is expected to sell dollars in afternoon but traders believe intervention will just provide them with an opportunity to buy cheaper dollars.

The bounding dollar was bad news for gold which fell \$3 an ounce from Friday's close to fix in London at 374.25, its lowest for 32 months. Silver slid to two-year lows.

Gold prices drop Dollar surges to 2-1/2-year high

Stock prices likely to rise further

NEW YORK, May 15, (Reuters): Signs that the US economy is slowing down enough to permit an easing of interest rates encouraged investors to push US stock prices to a post-crash high last week, Wall Street analysts said today.

The immediate outlook is for further gains with pessimists likely to cover short positions and money managers forced to follow the trend or risk missing another major upward move, they said.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 57 points to 2,440 on Friday, its biggest one-day gain since May 31, 1988.

The trigger was a report that producer prices rose 0.4 per cent in April, substantially less than the 0.7 per cent anticipated by many economists.

"The number tended to confirm what has been emerging as a trend," said Monte Gordon, research director at Dreyfus Corp. He said the economy is slowing down and inflation is abating simultaneously.

Some forecasters have warned of a slowdown in economic activity but no easing of inflation, a condition known as stagflation.

Gordon said the indications are that the policies of the Federal Reserve are working and there is no longer a need to further tighten credit.

In fact, he said, some forecasters are suggesting that it might be time to begin easing policy although he believes that "they should not ease and should hold their posture."

Some of the other signs of a slowdown have included a 5.3 per cent rise in employment in April compared to 5.0 per cent rise in March. Friday's producer price report followed by one day the announcement that retail prices rose 0.4 per cent in April, also far below predictions.

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Art world stunned as collectors buying spree smashes records

LONDON, May 15, (Reuters): When paper investments get boring, the really rich put their cash in canvas like the Picasso sold this week for \$48 million.

"You can't put your stocks and shares on the wall," said one London art dealer after the Spanish artist's "Yo Picasso" became the second most expensive picture in the world.

The self portrait, painted when Picasso was barely out of school, went under the hammer in a New York sale last week at which more money changed hands than at any auction in history.

Altogether Sotheby's sold art works worth \$205 million that day, and the art market got another shock on Wednesday when rival Christie's sold \$173 million of pictures, several for record prices.

Fine art, particularly Impressionist paintings, is big business with tycoons spending fortunes sometimes raised by

share and property dealing. Buying art has also become part of the business and social scene.

"There are a lot of very rich people in the world today after 40 years of peace and prosperity and from the time of the Greeks and the Romans buying art has been a very classic thing to do with your money," said Fiona Ford of Sotheby's in London.

Auctioneers say their big league buyers are mainly affluent collectors who are not looking for fast speculative returns but want the prestige of owning a masterpiece which doubles as a hedge against inflation.

A nervous art world heaved a collective sigh of relief one month after the global stock market crash of 1987 when Vincent Van Gogh's 'Irises' sold for \$54 million, bought by Australian businessman Alan Bond. The record still stands.

Spokesmen for Sotheby's and Christie's

do not speculate where prices may go next. They generally collect about 10 per cent from both seller and buyer on sales and have posted record profits.

"The more expensive the picture the less sensible it is to sell it quickly means about five years. The market likes fresh things," said Ford. "Records don't stand long these days," she added.

The 1901 Picasso sold on Tuesday had a \$20 million top estimate and was bought for about \$6 million in 1981.

Pity some of the painters. Three of the top ten pictures sold at auction recently were by the Dutch painter Vincent Van Gogh who only sold one canvas in his lifetime.

The sale of Sunflowers, one of the most celebrated images in the history of art, to a Japanese insurance company focused attention on Japanese and corporate purchases. The painting of a blazing

yellow bouquet sold for near \$40 million.

The two British auction houses tour the United States, Japan and Europe much as a bank advertises investment instruments with so-called roadshows and lavish receptions.

One controversial aspect of the boom is whether museums can now afford such high prices.

Impress

"There is a fair amount of financial buying power in Europe," says William Hanham of Christie's. "There's not a lot of museum buying at these levels."

Auctioneers and painters alike are reluctant for pictures to go into storage vaults. Some companies use pictures to impress or give prestige to boardroom meetings while collectors such as Baron Hans-Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza open exhibitions to the public.

Committee submits report How to activate stock market

THE Stock Market Committee formed by Kuwait's Chamber of Commerce and Industry has submitted a detailed report of its perspectives for bringing about an upswing in the activities of the Kuwait Stock Exchange Market, a local daily quoted a reliable source as saying.

The report contains several proposals calling for re-organising companies registered in the bourse and for merging some identical ones to achieve austerity.

The sources added that the report will be referred also to the official authorities concerned after incorporating the necessary amendments by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Meanwhile, the daily learnt that the drop in equities prices at the stock market could be attributed to statements issued recently by the Minister of Commerce and Industry Faisal Al Khalid over the opening of a parallel market by the beginning of June.

It added that the market was currently suffering an imbalance between supply and demand. The supply of shares in larger than the purchasing power. Opening of a parallel market will flood the market with the equities and will eventually add a new defect to the imbalance between supply and demand which prevails in the stock market presently.

The sources ruled out the possibility of increasing the interest rate by the local monetary auth-

orities, particularly in the light of the retreat in prices of treasury bills.

On the other hand, the daily has quoted another source as saying that the problem of the stock market does not rest in the shares surplus supplied by the market, but the problem is that there were some bad companies in the market. If the companies genuinely offer their shares in the parallel market, it will find the necessary liquidities to be invested in the market.

It added that the Chamber of Commerce and Industry will prepare a comprehensive report for activating the stock market.

In this context, the Real Estate Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, according to the sources, has submitted its report which contained the most vital problems facing the real estate sector. The report highlighted the negative effects of red tape prevailing in the pertinent government authorities.

The report called for more freedom in the real estate sector. It also called for minimising procedures required for obtaining of construction materials.

Additionally, the report called for the alleviating real estate registration procedures in addition to developing of the relations between the renters and the real estate owners. The report called for giving a distinguished role to the private sector to contribute their expertise to the prevailing issue.

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Northern Gulf Trading Company
P.O. Box 25908
Safat 13120

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	INCHCAPE	272.0
ABBEY LFE	283/0	JAGUAR	302/0
ADL LTD	177/0	KINGFISHER	335.0
ALD LYONS	461.0	LADROCK	580.0
ARSTYL GP	150.0	LAND SECS	594/0
ASDA GP	172/0	LAPORTE	432.0
BAA	347.0	LASMO	319/0
BAT INDS	547.0	LEGAL+GEN	282/0
BARCLAYS	480.0	LONGH	282/0
BASS	958/0	LUCAS IND	645.0
BEAVER	188/0	MAGNET	295.0
BECHAMNS	614/0	MARKS+SP	172/0
BICC PLC	507/0	MAXWELL C	207.0
BLUE ARMY	99.00	NECCA LEI	168/0
BLUE CIRC	563/0	NEPC	598.0
BUC GP	497/0	MTN FOODS	301/0
BOOTS CO	293/0	P & O DFD	187.0
BPR INDS	240/0	PEARSON	715/0
BR COMM	211.0	PILKINGTON	242.5
BR AIRWAY	656.00	PLESSEY	259/0
BR AEROSP	03.00	POLLY SEC	308/0
BR GAS RG	183.0	RACAL ELC	482.0
BR LAND	368/0	RACAL TEL	422/0
B.P.-FP	282/0	RANK RVS	345/0
BR STEEL	88.25	RANK ORG	957.0
BR TELCOM	272/0	RCKITT+CO	125/0
BURMAN OL	562.0	REDLAND	581/0
BURTON	220/0	REED	396/0
CABLEWIR	538/0	RHC GRP	748/0
CADBURYS	356.0	REUTERS	778/0
CALOR GRP	397.0	RTZ CORP.	526/0
CRLTN COM	865/0	ROLLS ROY	190.5
COATS VVY	155/0	ROTHMAN B	508/0
COOKSON	24.50	ROYAL INS	425.0
COULTAULD	324.0	SAATCHI	298.0
DALGETY	351.0	SCATSURBY	238/0
DIXONS	138.0	SCOT-NEW	302.0
ENG CHINA	500/0	SEARS	129/0
ENTER OIL	67.00	SEDEWICK	250/0
FKI BABCOK	107.0	SHELL	401.0
FERRANTI	306/0	SIEBE	491/0
FISONS	345/0	SLOUGH ES	329/0
GATEWAY	94.05	STD.CHART	545/0
GEN ACCID	955.0	STC	345/0
GEN ELEC	244.0	STOREHOUSE	168.5
GLAXO	393/0	SUN ALLIA	185.0
GRANADA	340/0	SUN LIFE	900/0
GLOBE	179/0	TARMAC	325/0
GLYMEED	311.0	TATELYLE	257/0
GUARD RYL	216.0	TYLOR WOOD	643/0
GNL	378/0	TRAF HSE	388/0
GUINNESS	480/0	TSS	112/0
HWERNER S	797/0	T + N	214/0
HANSON	201.0	TRUTHSEE	310.5
HARRISON C	76.00	ULTRAMAR	555/0
HUKER SID	708/0	UNILEVER	555/0
HILLSDOWN	272/0	UNIGATE	365/0
INI	239/0	UNISPR	430.0
		WELLCOE	456/0
		WHITBROD	367/0
		WILLIAMS	273/0
		WILLIS FB	235/0
		WINPEY GE	78.00

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	909/0	912/0
2ND GROUP	129/0	129/0
A.ANDERS	452/0	456/0
A.B.ELECT	398/0	398/0
A.S.W.HLD	275/0	278/0
AAB KENT	113/0	113/0
AAR HLD	399/0	400/0
AARNDSON	109/0	108/0
ADISON	45/4	46/0
ADVEST	168/0	167/0
ALEX WKRM	194/0	193/0
ALCON	398/0	398/0
ALLD COLL	143/0	144/0
ALLD IR B	320/0	319/0
ALLD LON	148/0	148/0
ALLIANCE	023/0	029/0
AMBER DAY	53/0	53/0
AMEC	458/0	460/0
AMER TST	143/2	144/4
AMERSHAM	485/0	489/0
AMH HLTHC	367/0	367/0
AMGLIA SC	344/0	341/0
AMGLIA TV	282/0	284/0
AMSBACHER	77/0	78/0
APLEYARD	102/0	102/0
ASHLEY LA	102/0	102/0
AUS REE A	242/0	240/0
AUST JED	384/0	387/0
AUTO SECS	284/0	285/0
AVESCO	147/0	148/0
AVIS EUR	409/0	410/0
AVON RUBB	613/0	615/0
B.WENHILL	248/0	248/0
BAILL JAP	539/0	538/0
BAILL SHI	97/4	98/0
BAIRD (W)	248/0	249/0
BANK IRE	298/0	299/0
BANKER IT	92/4	94/0
BARON GP	173/0	173/0
BARRY DEV	189/0	190/0
BAYNES C.	38/0	39/0
BBA GROUP	206/0	206/0
BEAR BRND	12/0	12/0
BEATTIE J	155/0	154/0
BELHAVEN	51/4	52/0
BELMAY	249/0	248/0
BENKSE	239/0	238/0
BENLON HD	67/0	68/0
BERKELEY	236/0	237/0
BH GROUP	131/0	131/0
BK OF SCO	95/0	95/0
BLK LE 2	11/2	11/2
BLN GROUP	445/0	441/0
BNETT +F	90/0	90/0
BOASE MAS	343/0	345/0
BODDINGTON	174/0	173/0
BODY SHOP	564/0	568/0
BOOTH HNR	475/0	473/0
BORTHWICK	41/0	42/0
BR ARROW	113/0	113/0
BR ASSETS	83/0	83/4

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1787.2	1779.1	1779.9	1455.3
FT 500 SHR	0	1196.9	1196.9	1008.8
FT ALL SHR	0	1099.0	1087.94	926.59
FT GVS SEC	86.83	86.76	86.54	87.30
FT GVS DLR	177.8	176.3	174.3	161.9
FT MINES F	0	656.61	651.51	565.31
FT OIL	0	2009.7	1989.1	1725.4
FT MLD DLR	145.18	144.95	145.29	141.37
FT MLD STG	129.70	129.03	128.83	115.30
FT MLD LOC	135.25	134.66	134.50	123.40

London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS FIRM BELOW DAY'S HIGHS IN AFTERNOON
BELOW THE HIGHS OF TODAY'S NEW POST CRASH PEAK, WITH WALL STREET TRADING HIGHER IN EARLY BUSINESS.

ONE DEALER SAID, "THE MARKET'S RALLY IS WALL STREET LED. THERE'S NOT ENOUGH BUSINESS HERE TO JUSTIFY THESE LEVELS."

TRADERS SAID THAT APART FROM A SMALL NUMBER OF SPECIAL SITUATIONS, TRADING VOLUME WAS LOW. THE COMBINATION OF A HOLIDAY IN MANY EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND A PUBLIC TRANSPORT STRIKE IN LONDON CONTRIBUTED TO THE LOW VOLUME.

AT 1435 GMT THE FTSE INDEX WAS 12.9 POINTS UP AT 2,148.5.

THOSE COMPANIES WHOSE EARNINGS ARE SUBSTANTIALLY MADE IN DOLLARS GAINED ON THE STRENGTH OF THE U.S. CURRENCY TODAY. GLAXO WAS 33P UP AT 1,390 WITH ICI 8P FIRMER AT 1,229.

HANSON WAS 3P HIGHER AT 202 AFTER REPORTING SIX MONTH FIGURES SHOWING PRE-TAX PROFIT RISING TO 447 MLN STG FROM A PREVIOUS 356 MLN. MELL ABOVE MOST MARKET FORECASTS.

UPP WAS 12P HIGHER AT 614P AMID MARKET TALK SAID THAT U.S. ADVERTISER OGLIVY GROUP'S BOARD IS EXPECTED TO VOTE ON A BUYOUT OFFER OF ABOUT 54 TO 55 DLRS PER SHARE FROM UPP GROUP TODAY.

London Gold

LONDON, MAY 15, REUTER - GOLD BULLION CLOSED QUIETLY AT 375.75/374.25 DLRS AN OUNCE, OFF 32-MONTH LOWS SET EARLIER TODAY, AS OPERATORS TRIED TO MATCH SEE-SAWING DOLLAR FLUCTUATIONS.

THIS COMPARES WITH ITS FRIDAY CLOSE OF 377.00/377.50.

DEALERS SAID GOLD WAS DOMINATED BY THE FORTUNES OF THE DOLLAR THROUGHOUT THE DAY AND FOUND LITTLE IMPETUS TO RECOVER SIGNIFICANTLY FROM ITS 32-MONTH LOW OF AROUND 375.00.

OTHER PRECIOUS METALS FOLLOWED GOLD'S LEAD, THEY ADDED.

London Money Market

LONDON, MAY 15, REUTER - STERLING MONEY RATES CLOSED LITTLE CHANGED EXCEPT FOR A SLIGHT EASING AT THE SHORT END AFTER A DAY OF TIGHT AND NERVOUS TRADING, DEALERS SAID.

"IT'S BEEN ANOTHER DREAFFUL DAY," ONE BROKER SAID. "NO-ONE REALLY WANTS TO PLAY."

MANY OF THE EUROPEAN MARKETS WERE CLOSED FOR THE WHIT MONDAY HOLIDAY AND THE LONDON MARKET WAS UNSURE WHICH WAY TO MOVE, TRADERS SAID. PEOPLE WERE WORRIED BY THE DOLLAR'S CONTINUED STRENGTH, REINFORCED BY TODAY'S INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION FIGURES, WHICH PUSHED STERLING TO AROUND 1.6335 DLRS, ITS LOWEST LEVEL SINCE OCTOBER 1987.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPG
DLR	1.6415/25	109999/04	6.5580/00	NOON
STG	1.6350/60	3.1870/1905	10.7525/7675	NOON
DMK	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	FIX
FFR	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	NOON
SFR	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	FIX
HFL	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	CLSE
ECU	0.768969	2.45091	8.28516	NOON
SDR	1.27818	226.97/225.29		
YEN	137.37/47	12/05/1989	OTHERS	15/05/1989
SDR RATE				

BR DREDGI	170/0	169/0	HEPWORTH	281/0	282/0	ROTHSCHILD	195/0	195/0
BR VITA	271/0	275/0	HESSTAR	228/0	228/0	ROTHOLD	162/0	162/0
BRENT CHE	153/0	153/0	KEYWOOD W	284/0	283/0	RUGBY GRP	195/0	194/0
BRENT MCR	399/0	399/0	HICKS IN	242/0	243/0	RUHLAND T	45/0	45/0
BRITAIN SE	188/0	188/0	HIGGS HIL	369/0	370/0	SAGA GRP	295/0	295/0
BRITANNIC	395/0	397/0	HMBRO CTY	44/0	44/0	SALE TILNY	204/0	204/0
BRIXTON E	398/0	399/0	HMBRO ZOP	228/0	228/0	SALVESSEN	137/0	138/0
BRN & JAC	43/0	43/4	HNTA SPHR	150/0	151/0	SARVILLE G	36/0	36/0
BROWN SHI	349/0	347/0	HOLMES PR	94/0	94/0	SARNOY	187/0	187/0
BRYANT GP	105/0	107/0	HOMDEN GP	152/0	152/0	SCH. GLOB	278/0	285/0
BSR INTL	77/4	78/4	HPKINSON	63/0	63/0	SCOT HERO	177/0	177/0
BSR INTL	61/0	62/0	HIV GROUP	119/0	118/0	SCOT I.T.	153/0	156/0
BUDGENS	145/0	146/0	ICE.FZ.FD	351/0	351/0	SCOT I.T.	153/0	156/0
BULLDOUGH	184/0	185/0	INRY M.DV	474/0	475/0	SCOT.AN.I	109/2	110/0
BULMER NR	176/0	175/0	INDPNDT W	15/0	15/0	SCOT NAT C	52/0	54/0
CAIRD GRP	44/0	44/0	INOCO PLC	34/0	34/0	SCY NAT I	99/4	99/4
CALENDONIA	373/0	370/0	INT.BU.CM	147/0	146/0	SCY NAT W	13/0	13/0
CAMB ELEC	216/0	218/0	INT.CITY	61/0	63/0	SECS TST	127/2	128/0
CAMPFORD E	270/0	270/0	JHNSNFR	56/4	57/0	SELECT VP	17/0	17/0
CANNING W	268/0	267/0	JOS HLDGS	151/0	152/0	SENA GRP	319/0	319/0
CANNON ST	235/0	238/0	KALAMAZOO	32/4	32/4	SHEDDEN	93/0	93/0
CAP.RADIO	816/0	817/0	KALON GRP	39/0	39/4	SHERATON S	93/0	93/0
CARADON	353/0	354/0	KELT ENGY	62/0	63/0	SHIRE INV	260/0	260/0
CARLTON	155/0	156/0	KETSON	16.0	15.0	SIMON ENG	398/0	399/0
CATLIE HD	75/0	76/0	KLWRT CHR	144/0	148/0	SINGERSFR	70/0	71/0
CENTL TV	768/0	775/0	KLWRT O'S	158/0	161/0	SMITH D	271/0	271/0
CHAM PHRR	220.0	216.0	KLWRT SHL	187/0	187/0	SOUND DIF	22/0	22/0
CHARTERNA	22/2	22/4	KLWRT SAV	450/0	451/0	SPRING RAN	135/0	135/0
CHAS CHUR	118/0		KWIK-FIT	116/0	117/0	SPRX-SARC	233/0	233/0
CHLORIDE	45/0	46/0	LAING 'A'	348/0	350/0	ST.ANDREW	215/0	215/0
CHRISTIES	982/0	988/0	LAING ORP	348/0	350/0	ST.HOWEN	40/0	40/0
CI GROUP	50/0	51/0	LAING PRP	534/0	535/0	STAKIS	104/0	105/0
CLAYFORM	320/0	320/0	LAIRD GRP	274/0	276/0	STEELEY	450/0	451/0
CMB PK MW	850/0	850/0	LAURANCE W	149/0	149/0	STEELE P	224/0	224/0
CNTRAL SEC	60/0	60/4	LON & MET	184/0	185/0	STODARD	47/0	47/0
CNTRY OIL	191/0	191/0	LON ATLAN	315/0	316/0	STORNGUARD	22/0	22/0
COALITE	41/0	409.0	LON INTL	210/0	212/0	STURGE HD	234/0	235/0
COLLINS	167/0	168/0	LON UNO	69/0	70/0	T.I.P.	172/0	173/0
CONNELLS	215/0	215/0	LONNEDIN	145/0	145/0	TELEMARK	41/0	41/0
COOPER F	155/0	154/0	LEISURE I	90/0	90/0	TEMPLE BA	256/0	256/0
COURTAIN	333/0	335/0	LEP GROUP	175/0	176/0	THAMES TV	468/0	468/0
COURTIS FR	196/0	197/0	LEX SERVC	376/0	386/0	THORNTONS	149/0	150/0
COWIE (T)	135/0	135/0	LIFE SEVIC	73/0	73/0	THORNTON	91/0	92/0
CRH	189/0	189/0	LILLEY FJ	72/4	73/0	TIE GROUP	446/0	446/0
CRDA INT	199/0	202/0	LIT	148/0	148/0	TIO RACK	68/0	69/0
CRYSTALAT	141/0	142/0	LLOYD TNP	220/0	220/0	TILBURY	490/0	488/0
CTRY PROP	253/0	253/0	LOGICA	378/0	378/0	TIME PROD	242/0	243/0
DARES EST	33/4	33/6	LOWELL H	269/0	268/0	TIPHOOK	534/0	534/0
DAVIS GDO	177/0	176/0	LOW (WM)	250/0	270/0	TOMKINS F	254/0	254/0
DAVIS CORP	246/0	246/0	LOWBONNER	226/0	226/0	TOTAL	127/4	127/4
DAWSON GP	187/0	186/0	H&G GROUP	315/0	317/0	TOZER K&N	117/4	118/0
DELTA GRP	337/0	338/0	H.C.PACIF	251/0	252/0	TR CITY	93/0	94/0
DEVENISH	306/0	307/0	HACARTHY	252/0	252/0	TR PACIFIC	88/4	89/0
DEWHIRST	44/0	44/0	MACFARLANE	223/0	223/0	TR PROPTY	61/0	61/0
DIPLOMA	250/0	250/0	MAI	93/0	93/4	TR TRSTEE	155/0	156/0
DOBSON PK	98/0	98/0	MAJEDIE	245/0	245/0	TRIMCO	42/0	42/0
DOPFAS GR	341/0	339/0	MAJERS	217/0	216/0	TRIPLER	173/0	173/0
DOUGLASS	74/0	75/0	MATTHEWS	70/0	70/0	TRIN EX	169/0	169/0
DOUGHTY GR	268/0	270/0	MAUNDERS	119/0	120/0	TRSPR.DV	234/0	233/0
DRAITIN FE	439/0	439/0	MECKENHIE	299/0	299/0	TRUDW	41/0	41/0
DRAITON C	542/0	545/0	MECE	261/0	262/0	U-TRC GRP	197/0	198/0
DRC	475/0	480/0	MENZIES	336/0	335/0	U-TRNG	44/0	44/0
DUKENIST	79/0	79/0	MERCH. TSI	183/0	184/0	U-WMS E1	80/0	81/0
DUNDEE LD	332/0	332/0	MERLIN IN	98/0	98/0	UK PAPER	229/0	228/0
DUNELL	297/0	298/0	METAL CLS	185/0	185/0	U-BROD ST	42/4	43/0
EAGLE TST	17/0	17/0	METALRAX	99/0	100/0	U-BROADL	214/0	213/0
EDIN L.T	17/0	17/0	MEYER INT	417/0	416/0	U-CITYENB	181/0	182/0
EDIN L.T	17/0	17/0	MIDSUMMER	244/0	244/0	U-DEANBOS	203/0	203/0
ELECTRA	275/0	280/0	MID SUM	125/0	126/0	U-DEWEY W	120/0	121/0
ELECTRO	219/0	219/0	MNT CHLT	185/0	185/0	U-DURHAM	53/0	53/0
ENAP	267/0	268/0	MOLINS OR	213/0	213/0	U-EXPLAUR	40/0	40/0
ENESS	454/0	455/0	MOMKS IT	274/0	276/0	U-FERRARI	12/0	12/0
EMPIRE ST	173/0	173/0	MORGAN CR	277/0	278/0	U-FLOY E	22/2	22/2
ENG.INT.J	309/0	309/0	MORGAN GF	282/0	282/0	U-FRD SEL	113/0	113/0
ETAN	184/0	185/0	MORGAN	745/0	745/0	U-HG HD PT	246/0	245/0
EURO.HOME	236/0	235/0	MOUNTLEIG	157/0	158/0	U-HUGH NT	172/0	173/0
EUROTHORN	315/0	317/0	MOWLEN J	421/0	423/0	U-HUGHES	44/0	44/0
EUWTL-WT	898/0	898/0	MRY INTL	214/0	216/0	U-ISRAEL	22/0	22/0
EUWTL.WT	70/0	70/0	MRY INTL	213/0	213/0	U-KUNIK	60/0	60/0
EVODE GRP	187/0	183/0	MS INTL	144/0	145/0	U-LD FRF	129/0	128/0
EX.CO.LOU	215/0	218/0	N.BRIT CA	428/0	428/0	U-MICROFT	42/0	43/0
EXPAMET	215/0	216/0	N.E.ENG.TND	133/0	135/0	U-MOLINAR	29/0	28/0
F&C ENTER	34/2	34/4	NEL.TELCM	106/0	107/0	U-MONMNT	28/0	28/0
F&C EURO1	306/0	306/0	NEUMATHIL	030/0	025/0	U-MRRYDUN	383/0	385/0
F&C PACIF	184/0	184/0	NORFOLK C	36/4	36/4	U-M.SEAG	46/0	46/0
F&C SMILLR	83/0	83/0	NORHAMS	60/4	61/0	U-PAVION	5/0	5/0
FARNELL E	185/0	185/0	NORTHAMER	296/0	295/0	U-RNDSTRT	285/0	285/0
FENG.HOUSH	203/0	203/0	NSM PLC	98/0	99/0	U-SAC INT	111/0	111/0
FENNER JH	177/0	178/0	NUNH&PCO	188/0	188/0	U-STB BUS	474/0	475/0
FERGUSON	266/0	266/0	O'SEAS IT	221/0	222/0	U-STHROPE	212/0	213/0
FINE ARTS	229/0	229/0	OCEAN TPT	326/0	328/0	U-T.V.AM	206/0	208/0
FILMAN GP	83/0	83/0	OCEANICS	24/0	24/0	U-UNION D	495/0	498/0
FITCH LV	317/0	317/0	OSSORY EST	25/0	25/0	UNITCH	352/0	354/0
FITCH LOW	317/0	315/0	OWNERS AB	82/0	82/0	UTO.INDUS	63/0	63/0
FLM.H.LINC	114/0	113/0	OXFORD INS	228/0	229/0	UTO.SCIEN	181/0	182/0
FLM.AMER	143/4	146/0	P & O WTS	98/0	100/0	UTLUEINR	65/0	65/0
FLM.FE	254/0	254/0	P & P PLC	216/0	218/0	VALUX GPR	285/0	287/0
FLM.FINV	187/0	188/0	PACIFIC A	242/0	243/0	VERSON	35/4	35/0
FLM.JAPN	257/0	257/0	PAGE (M)	52/0	53/0	VG INSTMT	305/0	305/0
GEI INTL	133/0	134/0	PENTOS PLC	105/0	104/0	VIG HASTG	195/0	196/0
GERRD&NAT	280/0	280/0	PERRON	63/0	63/0	VPI GROUP	147/0	148/0
GROESMANT	293/0	292/0	PERRY GRP	228/0	229/0	WADDINGTON	198/0	198/0
GOODOE DUR	127/0	127/0	PERSIMMON	160/0	160/0	WARD HOS	389/0	390/0
GPG	43/0	43/0	PHOENIX	77/0	78/0	WARD HLD	137/0	135/0
GREEN KMG	336/0	337/0	PICKWICK	218/0	218/0	WARDLE ST	363/0	363/0
GREENMLL W	309/0	309/0	POMELL D	387/0	388/0	WATERFD O	75/0	75/0
GREYCOAT	508/0	516/0	PONELT	114/0	114/0	WATERFD U	76/0	76/0
GRMP TV L	68/0	68/0	PRIEST BA	24/0	24/0	WATES CTY	188/0	188/0
GRPT PTLAND	386/0	388/0	PRIEST NA	454/0	453/0	WATTS B&B	349/0	348/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	PROFSECUR	185/0	185/0	WEIR GRP	282/0	282/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	PROFPOOT	270/0	271/0	WEMBLEY	119/0	119/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	PROV FIML	328/0	327/0	WESTBURY	252/0	251/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	RAINE IND	104/0	105/0	WESTLAND	140/0	140/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	RANSMERS	229/0	230/0	WHEAT	126/0	125/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	RANERS	238/0	238/0	WHEAT	126/0	125/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	RECEIVE	534/0	535/0	WILKES BOU	244/0	243/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	REFUGEE GP	463/0	464/0	WILSON CON	180/0	181/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	REGALON	126/0	126/0	WOLSELEY	276/0	277/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	REGATROT	78/0	78/0	WOLVEDUD	424/0	423/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	RENCOLD	84/4	84/4	WPP GRP	602/0	602/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	RENTOKIL	324/0	326/0	WST MOTR	655/0	654/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	ROBINSON	486/0	487/0	YALE&VALO	323/0	323/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	ROCKFORT	97/0	96/0	YORK CHEM	364/0	366/0
GUINNESS MA	127/0	128/0	ROCKWARE	63/0	63/0	YOUNG (H)	177/0	178/0

For a good cause

Duke of Westminster uses his name ruthlessly

WARRINGTON, England, May 15, (AP): Gerald Cavendish Grosvenor, the sixth Duke of Westminster and reputedly Britain's richest man, stands on a barren patch of this northwest English town, flipping back his brown hair in what is his signature gesture.

The 37-year-old aristocrat has good-humouredly agreed to be questioned and photographed on what is to become an industrial estate. He's doing his bit to help the local development corporation attract American investors.

He says that for a good cause, "I will use my name, I will use it ruthlessly."

"If you are given a lot, I think you should give a lot back," said Grosvenor, who spends about one-third of his time supporting 150 charities.

He says it springs from a sense of duty: "We still have a lot to do with those who have been left behind in the march toward prosperity."

It's also a sort of insurance against those British radicals who would regard the duke as a child of archaic privilege. In these egalitarian times, it's important for aristocrats, from royalty downward, to be

seen working for the common good.

But he is no apologist for the aristocracy.

"There is a class system wherever you go in the world. We just have handles on our names to identify our pecking order better," says the duke, who is also the Marquess of Westminster, Earl Grosvenor, viscount Belgrave, Baron Grosvenor and 15th baronet of Eaton.

Tall

The boyish, energetic duke is tall, medium-built, and for his outing to Warrington he wore a conservative suit and the British aristocracy's obligatory gold pinky ring.

Laughing in frequent short bursts, he is casual and friendly, obviously well-practiced at putting the overawed at ease with one-liners.

He speaks with an updated version of the upper-class British accent, laced with occasional Americanisms.

The Grosvenor family fortune is estimated by London's Sunday Times to be worth £3.2 billion (\$5 billion), surpassed only by Queen Elizabeth II's £5.2

billion (\$8.7 billion).

It owns an amazing 300 acres (120 hectares) of London's elegant Mayfair and Belgravia districts, including the plot on which the US embassy stands.

Back in 1677, it was all cabbage patch and swamp, the dowry of Mary Davies, the 12-year-old bride of Sir Thomas Grosvenor.

The estate also owns pieces of Scotland, Vancouver and Hawaii, a sheep station near Wagga Wagga, Australia, and extensive property outside Chester in northwest England, where stands the family home, Eaton Hall.

"It's not something I wake up every morning with and say, 'how wonderful to have all this money,'" the duke said. "I am not sitting there on hard cash, and it's not going into cars and boats as I see fit."

Does he ever feel guilty about being born so rich?

"No, never have done and never will do," he said.

"I am a curator of what my family does now and of what my family have done in the past and I am a planner of what my family will do in the future. I use my wealth

in order to create. My wealth is a business, and it is a very substantial employer of people."

A major drawback, he said, is having "too little time to see one's family. I clearly resent that." But he added, "it comes with the territory."

Born in 1951 as the only son among three children, the young Grosvenor was raised in Northern Ireland, where his father was a Member of Parliament and ran a silversmith's business. He has described his childhood as idyllic, isolated and free.

A series of accidents of birth and death brought the title to his father in 1967. At 16, young Grosvenor was suddenly heir to one of the world's biggest fortunes.

At exclusive Harrow School, he was an undistinguished student. Instead of college, he roughed it as a cowboy on a British Columbia ranch, learned farm management in New Zealand, and worked for a real estate agent and a nature conservancy agency in Britain.

When he was 21, his father became ill. Grosvenor began to learn the complexities of the family business.

Trade report is likely to show shortfall of \$10.1b

US cuts intake of foreign oil

WASHINGTON, May 15, (Reuters): The US trade deficit will probably have narrowed slightly in March from February's \$10.5 billion despite a jump in oil imports, economists said today.

The March trade report, to be issued by the Commerce Department on Wednesday morning, is likely to show a shortfall of \$10.1 billion, according to a consensus of 16 economists surveyed by Reuters. Predictions ranged from \$8.9 billion to \$11.0 billion.

The monthly trade report was one of the most closely watched economic trends last year as the United States cut its deficit to \$119.76 billion from a record \$152.12 billion.

The anticipated improvement in the March trade gap would have been greater if not for an increase in oil import volumes and prices. The US oil bill will be at least \$3.50 billion for March, compared to \$3.28 billion in February, economists said.

Even though the country reduced its intake of foreign oil in the first two months of the year, the rise in foreign oil prices to an average \$15.08 per barrel in March from \$13.10 in December has raised overall import values.

Some economists are expecting the country's appetite for imports other than oil to taper off in March because of the slowdown in economic growth that emerged in February.

"I think imports outside the oil sector have been flat for some time and I think you're going to be seeing more of that," said economist Joe Carson of Chemical Bank.

Carson expects a drop in imports, primarily in consumer goods other than cars, to trim the March trade shortfall to \$10.1 billion, with exports little changed from February's \$28.91 billion. Imports in February were \$39.40 billion.

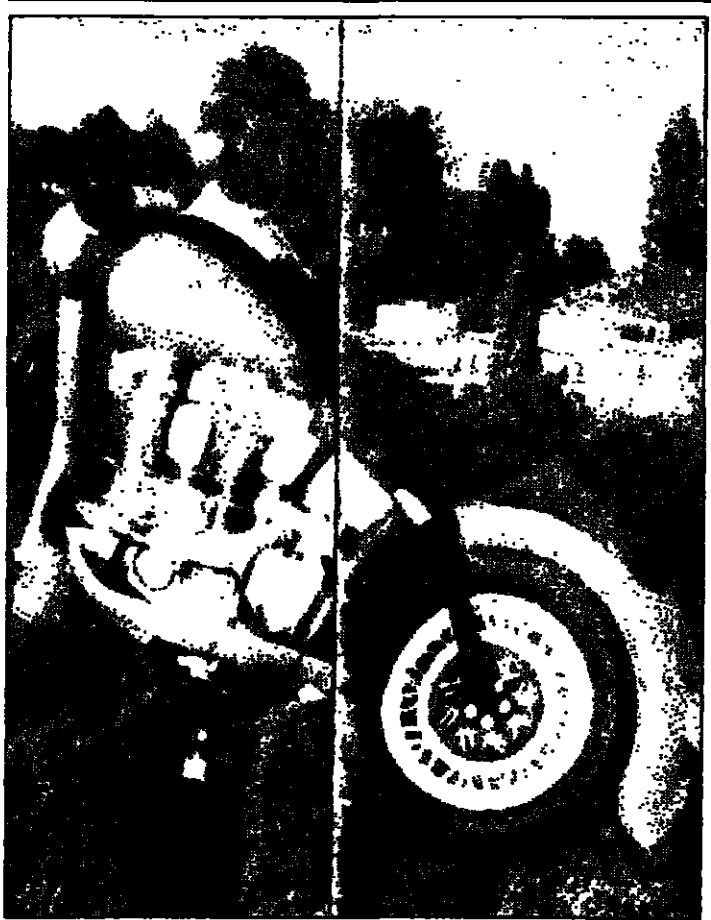
But economist Sally Kleinman of Manufacturers Hanover Trust said she has not detected any significant decline in import demand as a result of the slowdown.

Kleinman expects the trade deficit to widen very slightly to \$10.6 billion because of a rise in imports, mainly oil and Japanese cars, which she said will outstrip a modest gain in exports.

Although car sales in the United States were sluggish in March, imports of Japanese cars were building up their inventories during the month, she said.

Exports, meanwhile, may rise modestly in March. But they have clearly lost the momentum gained early last year when they were expanding at a 30 per cent annual rate, economists said.

Much of the reason for the slowdown in export growth is the rebound in the value of the dollar over past months. That ended a three-year period of decline during which American goods became cheaper overseas, they said.



Giant captive balloon

A giant captive balloon in shape of a Harley-Davidson motorbike floats over the city of Hamburg. The balloon is a gift by publisher Malcolm S. Forbes of US for the city of Hamburg, celebrating its 800th anniversary of the harbour. (Reuters wirephoto)

As youth market fades, businesses target master consumers

DETROIT, May 15, (UPI): Despite what you see on television, the youthful target audience of hawkers promising love and happiness through sweet breath, slick hair, fast cars and lots of skin is near the end of the trail.

What now?

The baby boomers, according to the author of a best-seller on the aging market, "are about to leave youth forever" while a new "master consumer" aged 35 to 50-plus will make boomers look like small potatoes.

Ken Dychtwald, chief executive officer of Age Wave Inc. of Emeryville, California, instructs advertising and marketing types how to tune in to the financial clout of the exploding middle- and golden-aged population.

Sessions on the shifting American marketplace, co-sponsored by CBS Broadcast Group and Time Inc., were held in Detroit, Chicago and New York this month.

Dychtwald sees the aging population creating two significant areas of opportunity, which he likened to two humps of a camel, for business in the 1990s and beyond.

The first hump is the growth of the 35- to 54-year-old market. The consumers in this group are now entering their most expansive spending period.

The second is the long-ignored 50-to-64 age group, which controls more than half of the nation's discretionary income, or more than \$130 billion.

"A business that markets to the 50-plus segment now will not only reap the current

rewards of a powerful consumer market, but will also find itself well positioned for the explosion of this population segment at the turn of the century, when the boomers step over the threshold into their 50s — and the camel's two humps become one," said Dychtwald.

In the 50-plus market, he said, comfort becomes a key psychological need, as manifested in the "gray migration" to warmer climates.

"But the desire to be comfortable goes far beyond relocation to a warmer climate," he said. "As we age, we come to feel that we have had enough hassles. We feel less inclined to conform ourselves to products that were not designed with ease of use in mind. At the same time, we are less concerned with showing off — we are less

impressed by what looks good and more by what feels good."

Yet, advertisers and marketers may not be prepared for this demographic upheaval, having spent so many years following the baby boom that followed World War II.

But, he cautioned that "over the next 10 years the strength of the 18-to-24-year-old market will dwindle as this group loses 1 million people, a 3 per cent drop — and a \$3 billion drop in spending power."

"As more spending power becomes concentrated in the hands of the middle-aged — and as their financial obligations diminish as they continue to age — the financial strength of this portion of society will be unprecedented," predicted Dychtwald.



A rendering by artist Rudolf Das showing the proposed futuristic look of Leninikan, USSR. A group of Dutch architects, townplanners and businessmen are scheduled to launch a fund-raising campaign to build Europolis in earthquake-devastated Soviet Armenia. (Reuters wirephoto)

\$300m project approved

Dutchmen to build city for peace in Armenia

AMSTERDAM, May 15, (Reuters): By the year 2000 the focus of international efforts to promote world peace could be a new city in the earthquake-devastated Soviet Republic of Armenia.

This is the vision of a group of Dutch architects, planners and businesspeople, who later this month will launch an international fund-raising campaign to build Europolis, the world's first "city of peace."

The 300-million project has already been approved by Moscow and by the Armenian government, which has allocated a site midway between the towns of Yerevan and Leninakan.

"Our initial aim is to build a city to rehouse as many Armenians as possible," said businessman Robert Nieland, chief coordinator of the Europolis foundation group.

At least half a million Armenians are estimated to have lost their homes in the massive earthquake which shook the republic last December, killing about 25,000 people.

"The city will be built by the international community so it will also become a symbol for international co-operation and understanding," Nieland told Reuters in an interview.

He said Europolis, housing about 200,000 people, would include an international conference centre for research and meetings on a wide range of topics such as disarmament, the environment and religion.

Nieland is confident the funds to build Europolis can easily be raised from governments, international organisations, companies, and the general public.

"I'm sure large firms will be interested in associating their names with Europolis by financ-

ing parts of the construction work," he said, noting the Armenian government had already offered to help build several factories in the city.

He said Europolis was a combined response to the Armenian disaster and to a major peace initiative launched by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in New York last December 7, ironically on the same day as the earthquake.

In a speech to the United Nations, Gorbachev, unaware of the tragic events in Armenia, announced unilateral cuts to Soviet forces and conventional arms in a move to reshape his army's role into a defensive one.

"We want to help Gorbachev's efforts to create new ways of thinking about world peace," said Nieland, a 33-year-old computer firm director.

Last month Nieland and two architects went to Armenia to discuss their plans with local authorities and visit the site of the new city about 25 km (15 miles) northwest of the Armenian capital, Yerevan.

They hope the first stones of Europolis will be laid by April next year, with the conference centre ready by 1992.

In another eight years the city should have a full range of facilities, such as schools, hospitals and a university.

Europolis will be built on an uninhabited plateau near the earthquake area, within easy reach of Yerevan airport.

Nieland believes this historic location, on the crossroads between Europe and Asia, will make Europolis an ideal meeting place for politicians and experts from all over the world.

"Armenia is a very old country where the whole of Western civil-

isation has its roots," said Nieland, noting that in 303 the Armenian King Tiridates had declared Armenia the first Christian country in the world.

Islam also flourished in Armenia, a vast country which originally stretched from the Caucasus mountains to the Mediterranean and included parts of present-day Turkey, Iran and Iraq.

"Armenia has been forgotten for centuries," said Nieland.

World attention has refocused on the region since the earthquake and last year's ethnic clashes over Nagorno-Karabakh, which is part of Azerbaijan but is claimed by Armenia.

The Dutch team insist Europolis will not resemble the soulless concrete landscapes of some new cities.

"We want to build a city that brings people together," said Max van Huut, a director of the Amsterdam firm of architects working on the initial plans for Europolis.

Van Huut, 41, describes himself as an organic architect, using irregular forms inspired by nature rather than the harsh cubic shapes of many modern buildings.

He said Europolis would be built as a series of self-sufficient communities, so citizens need not travel more than two km (one mile) to reach essential facilities.

Special reinforced materials would be used to ensure buildings could resist any future earthquakes.

"People have talked about creating idealistic cities for centuries," said Nieland. "For the first time in the history of mankind we have the transport, communications and international awareness to make this dream possible," he added.

Soviet officials arrive in Taiwan

Plan to attend economic meeting

TAIPEI, Taiwan, May 15, (AP): Two Soviet trade officials arrived in Taiwan yesterday for an international economic meeting, the first known visit by Soviet officials to the staunchly anti-communist island.

Yuri V. Akhremenko and Vladimir Ivanov are to attend as observers the three-day annual meeting of the Pacific Basin Economic Council, which promotes economic co-operation in the Pacific rim.

During a stopover in Tokyo, the two were quoted by Taiwanese reporters as saying the Soviet Union intended to become a member of the council.

Their arrival came as Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev flew to China for the first Soviet-Chinese summit in three decades.

About 300 bankers and business leaders from 14 countries and territories are to attend the Taiwan conference, which begins tomorrow.

Akhremenko is executive secretary of the Soviet Union's National Committee for Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation. Ivanov is chairman of the Pacific region research department of the Institute of World Economics. Foreign Ministry officials

said the ministry would not stamp official seals on their passports to avoid giving the impression that Taiwan recognises the Soviet Union.

The Nationalist government on Taiwan has no diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union and has long considered it a hostile nation.

The Nationalists, who fled to Taiwan in 1949 after losing a civil war to communist forces on the Chinese mainland, have claimed the Soviets aided the Chinese communists' victory.

Taiwan's indirect trade with the Soviet Union has grown significantly in the past year as the government adopted a more liberal trade policy to promote trade exchanges with countries in Eastern Europe.

Last year, Taiwan's indirect exports to the Soviet Union totalled 3.5 million, up about fivefold from 1987, while imports from the Soviet Union increased threefold in the same period, totalling 3.1 million.

In March, two Soviet women were the first Soviets issued Taiwanese entry visas when they were allowed to participate in an international beauty pageant in Taiwan.

Gulf industry to get a boost

Bahrain to promote investment with Cairo

BAHRAIN, May 15, (Reuters): Bahrain is taking steps to promote industry and investment projects between oil-rich Gulf states and Egypt, the Arab world's most populous but debt-burdened nation, officials said today.

They said a visit to Cairo tomorrow by Sheikh Isa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa, the island's Amir and current chairman of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), would underscore the growing importance of Egypt's role within the region.

"We see many opportunities for industrial co-operation between Bahrain and Egypt in particular and the GCC and the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) in general," Ahmed Qasim Fakiro, president of Bahrain's Chamber of Commerce, told Reuters.

The GCC states of Bahrain,

Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates have backed Egypt's participation in an Arab summit due to begin in Casablanca on May 23.

Egypt — which with Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen is a member of the newly-formed ACC — was suspended by the League for signing a peace pact with Israel in 1979.

Exhibition

Fakiro, who is also chairman of the Cairo-based Gulf Arab Investment Co., said Egyptian firms would hold an industrial exhibition in Bahrain in the first quarter of 1990.

At the same time, Bahrain would host a seminar on investment opportunities in Egypt aimed at encouraging Gulf businessmen to take part in joint ventures with the state, he said.

Officials say current Gulf

investment in Egypt — mainly from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait — is around \$1.5 billion.

Egypt, with 54 million people, is burdened with foreign debt of \$43 billion and imports more than half its food.

Sheikh Isa is due to arrive in Cairo on a three-day visit following an official trip to Baghdad.

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd and Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zaid Al Nahayan have also visited Cairo as part of a GCC drive to promote relations. Oman's Sultan Qaboos is scheduled to visit next week.

Abdulmonem Shirawi, general manager of Bahrain Aluminium Extrusion Co. (Balexco), told Reuters the firm would sign a deal on Thursday with the Cairo-based Arab Aluminium Co.

Balexco makes doors and window frames from aluminium ingots produced in Bahrain.

Interbank KD deposit rates rise

Money supply growth quickens

KUWAIT money supply growth quickened by KD100 million (1.9 per cent) in February this year over the previous month to reach KD5,263 million. It was noticed that this increase in money supply was totally concentrated in money supply components denominated in KD, particularly time deposits which increased by KD119 million (4.9 per cent), against a decline of KD42 million (3.3 per cent), for the second consecutive month, in deposits denominated in foreign currencies, according to Central Bank of Kuwait monthly Monetary Review.

The rise in KD deposits can be explained by the increase in interest rates on these deposits, following the Central Bank's decision on December 11 last year determining the minimum limits for interest rates on private sector deposits with banks.

Interest rates on interbank KD deposits rose on all deposit maturities at varied rates, which were for example, 7.06 per cent (from 7.46 per cent to 7.99 per cent) and 3.04 per cent (from 7.88 per cent to 8.12 per cent) on one-month and three-month deposits respectively.

In February this year, the average KD exchange rate recorded a decline of 1.24 per cent against the US dollar below its level in the previous month.

The US dollar exchange rate ranged between 286.99 fils and 288.63 fils, a monthly average of 287.84 fils.

Against other major currencies, except for a slight decline against the Japanese yen by 0.17 per cent, the KD exchange rate improved slightly against the Swiss franc, the Deutsche mark, the French franc, the Italian lira and the pound sterling.

The KD performance against most major currencies was more stable than that of the US dollar because the KD exchange rate against these currencies rose at rates less than those of the US dollar against the same currencies.

During February this year the Central Bank of Kuwait offered four issues of treasury bills (from Issue No. 37 to Issue No. 40), totalling KD380 million.

Meanwhile, three issues of treasury bills (from Issue No. 26 to Issue No. 28), totalling KD300 million, have matured.

Inflationary fears ease

THE dollar and money markets alike continued to oscillate within a narrow range, with the US unit moving Y131-132, £/\$1.70-1.72 and DM 1.84-1.86 over the last month.

This directly reflects the contradictory perception on the current status of US economy.

Indicators on balance are providing some evidence of slowdown in activity, however it is far from clear whether inflation has simultaneously come under control.

Arguably, with a number of price rises still in the pipeline, inflation has yet to peak.

Markets and the financial authorities alike are applying a "wait and see" attitude to their next policy move — hence the narrow trading ranges, according to NBC Currency Monitor.

With inflationary fears in the US appearing to have eased albeit temporarily, the need for the Federal Reserve to tighten policy further has abated.

However, until there are clear signs of economic slowdown and lower price rises, a relaxation in policy is still a long way off. Should inflationary pressure intensify, and given the narrowing interest rate differential between the US and West Germany, further monetary restraint with higher interest rates still cannot be ruled out.

The dollar is likely to continue to drive sufficient support from the interest rate position. Should sentiment assess that the economy could achieve a "soft landing" (i.e. lower inflation without a major decline in economic growth), confidence in the dollar market could be sustained.

However a major dollar appreciation is not anticipated.

A statement made by the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial countries at their most recent meeting held last month endorsed their commitment to maintaining dollar competitiveness.

Their belief that a further "rise in the dollar" would undermine global economic growth, and prospects for a correction to the current trade imbalances, suggest that significant intervention by the key central banks to prevent the US dollar rising much further can be expected.

Indeed their statement can be construed that a weakening dollar would not necessarily be defended and indeed is likely to be welcome.

Whilst "we expect the dollar to continue to trade softer within a narrow trading range in the near term, the longer term outlook looks unsettled by the remaining fiscal and external imbalances and prospects of a further narrowing in the interest rate differential.

Over the year as a whole we still expect the dollar to trend lower from current levels."

In a reversal of last month's performance, the past three weeks have witnessed a depreciation of the dollar against the Kuwaiti dinar, while other currencies strengthened in varying degrees in the local market.

Shedding 0.59 per cent of its value, the Central Bank KD/\$ topside remained relatively stable, as it moved between its high of 290.60 fils/\$ at opening and its low of 288.88 fils/\$ at closing. It scored an average of 289.71 fils/\$ within this range.

The aggregate balance sheet of local banks (commercial and specialised) totalled KD12,314 million at the end of February this year realising an increase of KD31 million (0.3 per cent) over the previous month.

This increase on the side of liabilities of the local banks' aggregate balance sheet was a result of an increase of KD89 million in private sector deposits and shareholders' equity and a decrease of KD58 million in foreign liabilities, government deposits and other liabilities.

Goan pop star wants to go international

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

GOAN pop star Remo, who performed at the Expatriates Club musical programme on Thursday night, needs no introduction to pop music fans from India, particularly from Goa.

Popularly known as a "one-man music industry," he is the top pop-rock composer-performer in India.

In the 18 months since his last visit (he came to Kuwait in October 1987), Remo has mellowed. "I prefer to think I have matured," said the singer in an interview last week. His music, however, has not lost the freshness and vibrancy that it is noted for. His lyrics are as punchy as ever. But the singer is going through a new phase in his career.

Carefree

"I felt that my music was loaded with messages; now I'm trying to create happier music; lighter music; sounds that people can dance to and enjoy; I'm in a carefree mood these days," he said.

In his new album Bombay City, recently released by CBS, he creates a "surrealistic aura of sound and music." None of the lyrics have lost their dramatic and emotional appeal that the composer/singer Remo is known for. In SOS India, Remo focuses on the "religious madness" and communal disharmony with a catchline "Killing in the name of law."

"One must keep up with the mood; you know, keep a finger on the pulse," he said.

Remo believes in driving home a social message through humour, panache and rock 'n' roll. All his previous albums

"Goan Crazy," "Old Goan Gold" and "Pack that Smack" are packed with messages about today's life like the drug problem, social hypocrisies, corruption, male chauvinism and other aspects.

Reality

One of the only pop singers to persevere, he has carved a niche for himself in the burgeoning pop music field. "Pop-rock is no more scorned at; it's a reality that is accepted and appreciated by many in India," he said.

"Recently pop-rock music was recognised as a part of modern Indian culture," he said. Remo cites the example of his inclusion in the Festival of India troupe that toured the USSR in June/July 1988. During the Festival of the Soviet Union in New Delhi in October/November the same year, he was an active participant.

At the moment, besides giving several solo concerts all over India, he is looking to perform at the prestigious Tokyo Music Festival later this year. This is the first time an Indian will be participating in the Tokyo festival.

Roots

Even as he prepares to make an album in the West, he is contemplating "going back to my roots." He wants to incorporate ethnic music in his forthcoming albums.

"It has felt; I like it," he said. He is also preparing his Hindi songs album, on which he has been working for more than two years but is reluctant to "rely on the judgement of someone else."

"So far, I write, compose and record. I'm in control. When I sing Hindi songs, I'll have to rely on my lyricist. I'm a bit hesitant," he explained.



Remo: top pop star of India

But he is not hesitant about making an Indo-Western pop/rock album called "Aphrodite" and a musical on Mother Teresa's work. Even while he works on his forthcoming albums, he has an eye on topping the charts in the West.

"At the moment I want to make one international hit; if I

get that, maybe I'll want to make more songs for world consumption," he said.

At the moment, he is reluctant to leave his native Goa and "live abroad" or anywhere else in India. "Touring is fine; but I must go back to my home in Goa," until the itch to move on strikes again.

Gala music evening at the NES

By Manal Elsheikh
Arab Times staff

STUDENTS and staff of the senior department of the New English School stunned the audience with their musical talents in their annual Gala Music Evening last week.

Of the many activities offered by the school, music is perhaps the most popular one that dissolves any differences between staff and students, nationality and age. The parties, including A. Rodgers — the school's headmaster, united in both band and choir.

Kenny Haggarty, the head of the music department, began to conduct the band at precisely 8.00 pm with the national anthem.

Hard work proved itself as the band, consisting of instruments of the wind, brass and string families plus percussion, confidently performed a number of well-known songs such as *When The Going Gets Tough, Reach Out, and Rock Around The Clock*.

A waltz from "Masquerade" was the first solo and was performed on the piano by Tomasz Owerkowicz. He received enthusiastic



The band takes a well-deserved breather

applause plus moral support from other members of the band.

Aaron de Mello, accompanied by Deepthi Withana (on the piano), did an excellent clarinet solo *Spanish dance (number 1)*. Deepthi Withana, preparing for her GCSE in music, then performed a very beautiful

piece of her own composition called *Rock 'em Blue*. Tomasz and N. Harvey played the saxophone and percussion respectively, with Deepthi.

Naida and Selma Dervisherb played *Concerto in C by Williams* on the pianos. Selma tugged at the audience's heart strings with her talent, being the youngest piano player in school at only nine years old.

After the band got everybody tapping their feet with the closing piece *Rock Around The Clock*, the choir proudly sang a musical version of the famous story of Oliver Twist, bringing a delightful and successful evening to a close.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1	KTV 2
MORNING	12.00 News Summary
9.00 Holy Quran	12.05 The World News Via Satellite and Closes down
9.10 Sabah Al Khair	
9.15 Cartoons	KTV 2
9.45 Magazine d'Actualite	6.30 Opening and Holy Quran
10.00 Yaseen Wa Bahiya: Arabic Serial (Part 6)	6.10 The Pink Panther and Son. A cartoon serial for children
10.50 News Summary and Varieties	6.30 Captain Power (Eps 6). Fal, survivor of one of these attacks, manages to capture the real Captain Power.... Fal is forced to choose and learns the meaning of trust
11.00 Al Aswar: Local Serial (Part 6)	7.00 Brazil (Prog 3). Water, Land and Survival. A comparison is made between the southern and northern parts of Brazil from the social and economic aspects
11.50 News Summary and Varieties	8.00 News in English
12.00 Varieties	8.30 The Fourth Arm. The participants are kept under control and certain members are sent to France to collect information about the Germans...
12.55 Sabah Al Khair: Final	9.30 Mutual of Omaha. "Water Holes." Julian and Scott connect a plan to tell Aunt Rhoda of the untimely death of her husband without revealing the extraordinary circumstances under which he died
1.00 News Summary and closedown	10.30 Midnight Caller. "No Exit." The girl feels sick when she realises that she is being exploited by a crook.
EVENING	11.30 News in brief
4.00 Holy Quran	11.45 Magazine D'Actualite
4.15 World News Via Satellite	
4.45 Sherlock Holmes: Cartoons Serial	
5.15 Tum Tae Wa Al Atfal	
5.30 Varieties	
5.45 Nahno Asdiqa'ok: Presented by Wafa' Taba	
6.00 Qanadeel Shabiya: Historical Serial	
7.30 Fi Khidmat Al Jamhoor: The Agricultural Magazine, prepared by the Kuwaiti Agricultural Engineers Society and presented by Yaqoob Al Yousifi	
8.10 Varieties	
8.30 Masa' Al Khair	
9.00 News in Arabic	
9.45 Layali Al Hilmiya: Arabic Daily Serial (Part 6)	
10.30 Min Al Alif Ila Ya Ya: Variety Programme, presented by Tariq Habib. Today's guest Dr Mustafa Mahmood	

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Istiqal Pharmacy
Al Safat Square, Ahmed Al Jaber Inheritors
Al Kawthar Pharmacy
Abdullah Al Mubarak St, Opposite to Murqab police station
Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Jahra Co-op

Hawalli and Negra
Al Najat Pharmacy
Hawalli, Opposite to the doctors complex
Salimya and Rumaythiya
Al Meccan Pharmacy
Baghdad St, Mishari Al Khaled Bldg.
Fahsheel and Ahmadi
Al Imaan Pharmacy
Makkah St
Farwaniya
Al Madina Pharmacy
Al Shamali St

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 7.00 to 10.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets, and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf, Kuwait and Saudi House.

Saudi House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon, 7 to 10 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Bangladesh Art Show
UPTO May 27. Bangladeshi artist Monirul Islam will show 45 paintings at the Kuwait National Museum. Islam's paintings revolve around the life of Bangladeshis. Landscapes are also on show. The exhibition will be open from 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4 to 7.30 pm. It has been organised by the Bangladesh Association.

FILMS

British Council
MAY 20/21 (6.30 pm): "A Room With a View," an adaptation of E.M. Forster's novel will be shown at the British Council, Mansouriyah. Featuring an incomparable cast, recipient of three Oscars, it tells the story of Lucy Honeychurch (Helena Bonham-Carter), a beautiful young English girl abroad, whose emotions are rocked when she witnesses a murder, and whose life is forever altered by the sudden

and mysterious arrival of a passionate young man. Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 251-5512; 253-3204; 252-23227.

MUSIC

Kuwait Singers
KUWAIT Singers present "Stage Struck" an evening of show songs from Broadway and the West End at Gulf English School, Salwa on Wednesday 24th May and Thursday 25th May at 8.00 pm. Price KQD3 to include refreshments. For reservations please phone 5317433/5384873.

Musical evening
MAY 17: (8.30 pm). The Phil Thomas Sextet and Karl and Christine Anderson with their band present an evening of British and American jazz, rock and pop music at the Holiday Inn. For reservations contact: 5629452/4834938/5387998.

Ex-Theo get-together
MAY 18: Roorkee University Alumni Association will have a family get-together. For details contact tele. 2551305 or 5631325.

Casuals Cricket Club
MAY 18: 8 pm. Messilah Beach Hotel. Annual dinner with special guest speaker Brian Close CBE, former captain of England and Yorkshire. Courtesy of British Airways. Live music. For tickets and information call Simon Clements (53333248) or Val Tudball (5327159).

Kuwait Caledonians
MAY 18: Messilah Beach Hotel. The Caledonians will hold a "celebrity" (gathering) with entertainment by John Carmichael and others. Tel: 5335082; 3727690 ext. 253.

ACT play

MAY 16-18: ACT presents a play by Raymond Briggs, "When the Wind Blows" at the Mousetrap Theatre in Jahriya at 8 pm both days. For reservations call: 5620332, 4-8 pm.

Summer Bazaar

MAY 19: 2.00 pm, St Pauls Ahmadi, grand summer Bazaar at the new British Consulate in the British Embassy grounds, sale of handicrafts, paperbacks, preserves good as new, plants, bottle stall, white elephant, numerous fun side shows etc. Plus prize draw for British Airways round trip ticket Kuwait-London, Delhi, Madras or Karachi.

Arabic Nights

MAY 19: Arabian Nights evening at the Jawhara Nightclub, Messilah Beach Hotel. Dress: Middle Eastern, past or present; 20 costume prizes; candlelit dinner — 9 pm. Tel: 4847461 or leave message on 2614201.

Jukebox 5

MAY 23-25: The Sounds Great production of Jukebox 5, will be presented at the Salmiyah Cinema at 8 pm and also at 5 pm on May 25. For reservations ring 5740256/7 (mornings) and 4 to 7 pm or 5718143 or 5731782. Tickets will be on sale at Salmiyah Cinema Box Office from May 14.

Alumni association

ALL alumnus of College of Engineering, Trivandrum, please contact any of the following telephones numbers: Thomas, 4895268; Salim 5617293; Baboi, 2412653; Thomas, 5616601; and Joseph 5615133.

One-act play

MAY 25: IAC One-act play competition awards night. IAC members please contact (office) tele 3904817 after 7 pm for passes. Participating teams contact P.C. George at 4739359 for

Geet and Ghazals

The Geet and Ghazals concert, Bhoolay Bistrey Geet, due to be held on May 19 at the Sharq auditorium has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances. A new date will be announced later.

SPORTS

At the Holiday Inn:

SWIMMING lessons have commenced which is available for non-members.

Mondays (6 to 7 pm) separate ladies and men's fit classes with Steve and Chris Hill.

Saturdays and Wednesdays (5 to 6 pm) ladies aerobics and Saturdays (6 to 7 pm) mixed aerobics, with Tuvvi Pakasalo.

Saturdays and Tuesdays yoga (7 to 8 pm). Bowling alley available for company tournaments.

Sundays squash handicap

tournament, all standards welcome. Tennis coaching available for non-members. Additional facilities available under the supervision of selective professionals: loss of weight, body building, massage (steam-oil and cream) for ladies and men. Contact the recreation department on 4742000 ext. 6788 or 6700.

Washington Generals plan to 'shoot Santa Claus'

Gail Seery
Arab Times staff

"BEATING the Harlem Globetrotters is like shooting Santa Claus," according to Globetrotters coach Tex Harrison, speaking at a press conference at the Kuwait International Hotel yesterday. The Globetrotters and their long-standing opponents, the Washington Generals, have arrived in Kuwait to play two exhibition basketball matches at the Al Arabi Stadium in Mansouriyah, tonight and tomorrow, and are currently in the middle of their Winston Middle East tour.

"We nearly beat them in Doha," recalls Washington Generals' coach Tim Hiertten. "Both teams are trying to win the game, and if we can beat them we will beat them. We have good players, and they should not be underestimated."

"Last time they beat us the fans thought it had been set up — and I thought I was going to get fired!" adds the golden-tongued Harrison. Both coaches stress that although the Globetrotters have a name for razzle-dazzle basketball, there is also a serious match going on. "If we beat them it will be

reported in every newspaper in the world," observes Hiertten, adding that the games would not be so entertaining without a very real element of suspense.

Harrison explained that if the Globetrotters did not have what they considered to be a comfortable lead going into the final quarter of the game, they would forget the comedy and go for a win. "It could go either way."

Nevertheless, most of the fans who will attend the game tonight and tomorrow will be there less for the serious basketball match than for the razzle-dazzle the Globetrotters are renowned for dishing up. They are promising a "new bag of tricks", and fans can also expect to see much of the prowess and panache that earned them the epithet, "the magicians of basketball." "If we do anything illegal it's for show, or to get a laugh from the audience."

Referee Darrel Fulton added, "Each time I sound the whistle, half the players will be upset. We have fun on the court but the players are serious athletes and there is a high degree of professionalism in both teams. When we're off the court it's just like being one of the

guys, but on the court we all have our jobs to do."

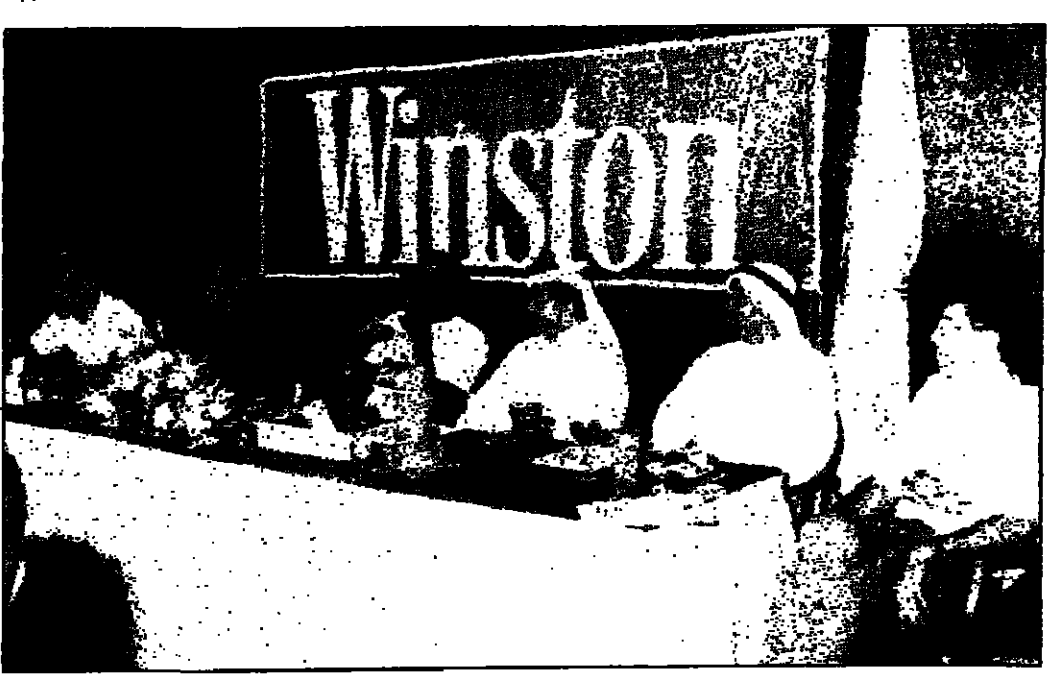
Harrison continued, "We feel we can develop a good athlete into the Globetrotters style, and wherever there is a good basketball player, we want him. We don't go for showmen who have no basketball ability."

Special

For Curley Johnson, trying out for the Globetrotters was something special — he had been a fan for years, and had in fact consciously modelled his own basketball style on the team. The tour, and its hectic schedule of games and travelling are "hard only if you make it hard for yourself. You need a lot of rest — on tour we get in from the games after 11 pm, and then have an early morning call at 3 or 4 in the morning, in order to travel on to the next country. It's gruelling, and you have to eat and take proper rest," he said.

Basketball fans and sports enthusiasts certainly look likely to get an excellent show; "they really are funny," says tour promoter Nigel Peters.

Fadoul Bakhazi, a representative of the RJ Reynolds group, whose brand Winston is supporting the tour, explained that his company had seen the

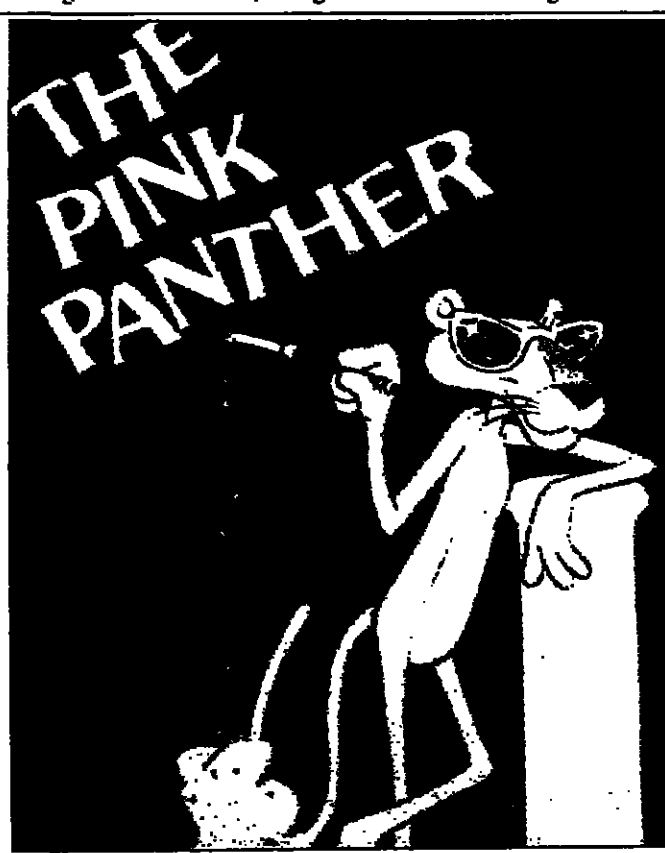


(L-R) Tex Harrison (Globetrotters coach) Curley Johnson (player), Tyrone Howard (player), Mohammed Ali Sultan (Director W.J. Towell & Co agencies — Winston distributor), Darrel Fulton (referee) and Tim Hiertten (Washington Generals coach).

tour as an opportunity to bring top sportsmen and entertainers to an audience which might not otherwise have an opportunity to see them. "We have a strong commitment to local sport," he said.

Both games start at 8 pm, and tickets are available at the Kuwait International Hotel, and at the Al Arabi club, priced KQD3, 5, and 7. The Harlem Globetrotters were originally founded in 1927, and have since

travelled all over the world. They are making their first visit to the Gulf area, despite being no strangers to the Arab world in general, and demand for tickets has been high in the venues to date.



The Pink Panther show on KTV 2 at 6.10 pm today

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0000 Newdesk	1200 Newdesk
30 Megamix	15 Multitrack 1: Top 20
0100 News Summary followed by Outlook	45 Sports Roundup
25 Financial News	1300 World News
30 Short Story	09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary
45 Europe's World	30 Network UK
0200 World News	45 Globetrotter's Guide to Popular Music (ex 2nd and 9th Sing Gospel)
09 British Press Review	1400 Outlook, opening with 5-minute News
15 Network UK	45 The Baroque Concerto (ex 2nd A Chopin Collection)
30 Sports International	1500 Newdesk
0300 World News	15 A Jolly Good Show
09 News about Britain	1600 World News
15 The World Today	09 News about Britain
30 John Peel	15 Omnibus
0400 Newdesk	45 The World Today
30 My Early Years	1700 World News
45 New Ideas	09 Commentary
55 Book Choice	15 Bring Your Own Popcorn
0500 World News	45 Sports Roundup
09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary	1800 Newdesk
30 Financial News (ex 2nd and 30th)	30 Discovery
40 Words of Faith	1900 News Summary followed by Outlook
45 The World Today	25 Financial News
0600 Newdesk	30 Development '89
30 Voices (ex 2nd and 9th Ackers Away)	2000 World News
0700 World News	09 The World Today
09 Twenty-four Hours: News Summary	25 Words of Faith
30 Europe's World	30 Meridian
45 Network UK	2100 News Summary followed by Sports Roundup
0800 World News	15 Business Matters (ex 23rd and 30 Megamix)
09 Words of Faith	
15 Tech Talk	
30 Bring Your Own Popcorn	
0900 World News	
09 British Press Review	
15 The World Today	
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup	
45 The Baroque Concerto (ex 2nd A Chopin Collection)	
1000 News Summary followed by Discovery	
30 Sports International	
1100 World News	
09 News about Britain	
15 Waveguide	
25 Book Choice	
30 Megamix	

FM Services

1000 Songs and Music
1200 Arabic Music
1300 Easy Listening
1330 News on FM Service
1340 Easy Listening
1400 Classical Music
1600 Easy Listening
1700 Italian Hour
1800 Pops
1900 Heiter Skelter
2130 News
2200 Indian Classical Hour
2300 Easy Listening
2400 Instrumental Listening
0200 Closedown

CINEMA TODAY

Andalus	Granada
Iron Angels	Theruvu Narthagi
Salmiya	Salmikhath
Nuts	Cobra Mission
Hanra	Al Jebb
Arabic film	1921
Drive-In	Ahmadi Drive-in
Arabic film	Arabic Film
Firdous	
Andha Yudh	
Starring: Raj Babbar, Pallavi Joshi	
Fahsheel Open Air	
Aag Ke Sholay	
Fahsheel	
Mr Deathman	
Jahra	
Ladaku	

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.25 am
Zuhr	11.44
Ast	3.20 pm
Maghreb	6.34
Isha	8.01

I've slammed the odd door, says Princess Anne's maid

Socialist in the royal household

By Paul Henderson
THE extraordinary interview with Linda Joyce, Princess Anne's maid, gives an intriguing insight into the upstairs-downstairs life in Buckingham Palace. It paints a picture of a woman given a trusted position at the side of Princess Anne, but who although welcomed into the royal households, always felt she was an outsider.

In the fascinating account of the left-wing magazine New Statesman and Society, Joyce describes herself as a Guardian-reading socialist, who was considered an unusual choice for the job as the princess' personal maid where she became uniquely close to her.

She says she was always the first person to see Anne in the mornings at Gatcombe Park. The intimacy flourished throughout her regular daily routine at her side in her private offices and apartments within Gatcombe and the palace.

As her dresser she was Anne's fashion confidante, selecting and laying out her clothes.

But always at the back of her mind was the knowledge her opinionated political beliefs were the



Princess Anne



Royal maid Linda Joyce



Commander Tim Laurence

source of jibes, not always, however. And she admits that at times the frustrations overwhelmed her.

She confessed that when quizzed by police about her relationship with Anne she said she had occasionally got involved in angry arguments with her.

"I've slammed the odd door. I believe the royal family have their place and I've enjoyed working for them. But I voice my opinions and don't tug my forelock."

But Joyce, who handed her notice in before the letters scandal broke, strongly denies she

was the thief and says she's sought to clear her name.

The maid who earned under £5,000 a year, says: "I've tried to talk to the princess. I've tried to talk to the Press Office. I've tried to talk to the private secretary."

"You pass people on the stairs and they don't know what to say to you so they don't say anything."

"Every door is slammed in my face and I have no way of clearing my name."

Joyce says she went straight back to the princess after the police interview and told her: "They had made me say things

that I wouldn't normally tell anybody about our relationship, but that I was given no option."

She says said the princess would no longer talk to her and no one from the palace had tried to contact her.

But she said she had no memory of having seen the intimate correspondence which went missing from a private briefcase.

"If there were any letters, I have no recollection of having ever seen them. I don't know what's in them. I don't want to know what's in them."

Joyce said she had opened the

briefcase no more than half a dozen times and only at the princess' request.

She said it had never occurred to her she might be a suspect until she was collected by car from Buckingham Palace for the police interview.

It is understood the stolen letters, although not embarrassing in content, were written in a very familiar tone meant for the princess' eyes only.

Police quizzed her on the reasons for her resignation and the relationship between herself and the princess, and Anne and Commander Laurence.

Joyce who worked for Anne twice — between March 1984 and January 1986, and again from April 1988 was asked had she anything against the princess.

The author of the interview, Jolyon Jenkins, said the approach came from her brother, a supporter of its Charter 88 campaign for constitutional reform and civil liberties. No money changed hands.

Jenkins added: "I was impressed with Miss Joyce's honesty and integrity. She seemed very straightforward."

US jewellery industry strikes gold in Barbara Bush's pearls

By Ken Ross

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island (UPI) — Thanks to Barbara Bush, American women are dusting off their strands of pearls. And so are the nation's jewellery merchants.

Industry officials say women in America have keyed in on the thick strands of white imitation pearls Bush wears constantly to public engagements, and quite a few are asking for the same when they head to their local jewellers.

"We had a lot of wholesale buyers coming in looking for them when we had our show in New York (in January)," said Charles W. Rice, president of the Providence-based United Jewellery Show, marketing arm of the Costume Jewellery Industry.

"The funny thing is that many people had these type of pearls for years," he said. "So all they had to do is dust them off and move them from the back shelf to the front shelf."

"Not long after her husband was elected she was shown with the pearls on and before we knew it we were getting calls from customers for two or three strand necklaces," added Michael Ruggerio, vice-president of design for the Napier Co. of New York



Barbara Bush: penchant for fake pearls

"The last time I checked she had about 10 different pearl necklaces," Becker said. "She says she just really likes them. Beyond that there really isn't a reason."

Reporters, and jewellery suppliers, noticed Bush's penchant for pearls last fall as her husband made his drive for the presidency.

Mark Gurdus, vice-president of sales for the Marvella division of Southport, Conn., based crystal brands, said his firm stepped up its production of pearled items as the election drew near.

"We somewhat capitalized on her," Gurdus said. "I even sent her a set of pearls and a jewellery box and I got a really nice response."

According to Gurdus, the increase in pearl popularity has been unmistakable, with retailers reporting their stock sold out before it arrives. But not all can be attributed to the first lady. Gurdus said a large part of the equation is that pearls are cyclical, and it is time for their resurgence.

"Barbara Bush wearing them every night on the 6 pm news is really not hurting, though," he said.

Skeleton export boom in Calcutta

Invasion of the body snatchers

By Rajendra Bajpal

CALCUTTA, (Reuters): India's largest city, is known for its slums, teeming by day and crowded by night with hundreds of street sleepers — but it has another, even more dubious distinction.

It is believed to be the world's largest exporter of human skulls and skeletons.

Until 1985 when the trade was banned, the government allowed the export of skeletons to medical colleges. Now the sales are shrouded in secrecy.

Body-hunters dig up graves or bribe morgue officials to get their hands on unclaimed bodies.

Local newspapers say undamaged skeletons, which can fetch as much as 10,000 rupees (\$650), are sent across the border to Bangladesh before being despatched by air or sea to their ultimate destinations.

Senior police officer Kamlesh Roy said most bodies came from cemeteries and from other districts of West Bengal or neighbouring Bihar state to exporters based in Calcutta.

The Statesman newspaper estimated some 70,000 skeletons, mostly from poverty-stricken neighbouring states, pour into Calcutta each year.

It said that in 1987 about 15,000 skeletons and 50,000 human skulls were sent overseas despite the ban.

The value of exports from Calcutta was estimated by the Statesman at 25 million rupees (\$1.6 million) and all India trade at 60 million rupees (\$4 million).

Officials say they have no statistics on the subject. Gururaja Rao, an official of the import-export licensing department, said: "The trade has been banned since 1985. I do not know how the exports are taking place."

But some cases come to light. The Telegraph newspaper reported that a group of youngsters returning home near Calcutta last year heard strange noises coming from morgue.

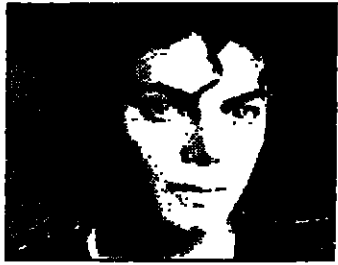
In a dingy, blood-spattered room, they found a man surrounded by 13 severed heads. A heap of flesh lay near him. The man was skinning the heads.

After he was handed over to police he confessed his father sold the skulls to contacts in the city.

Doctors working at Calcutta morgues denied unclaimed bodies were being sold to exporters.

"It is a fact that those who are in the racket may have connections with morgues," said A. Nandy, a senior doctor at the medical college morgue.

Jacko rules



MUSIC video fans across the globe have chosen Michael Jackson's 'Dirty Diana' as the top music video of 1989 in a special satellite telecast of the World Music Video Awards, co-sponsored by Pepsi-Cola International and Philips International.

Over a ten-week period millions of people on four continents had the opportunity to vote for their favourite rock video. The top 10 videos were then broadcast world-wide in a two-hour satellite telecast of the award ceremony.

Financial rewards significant

Professional Greek playboys thriving

By Jennifer Pagonis

ATHENS, (Reuters): The Greeks have a name for their professional playboys who make a living from dating female tourists — 'Kamakia' or harpours.

Kamakia, now preparing for the summer influx of holidaymakers, earn their money from commissions gained from taking foreign women to discos, taverns, restaurants and tourist shops.

One man in his 30s nonchalantly estimated he sleeps with 150 foreign tourists a summer, adding up to more than 2,500 women during his 17-year career.

It's a nice way to pick up foreign women, to go out and drink something. There's no push for sex, no hurry. First day, two weeks. It doesn't matter," he said.

"Greek women — first of all they look in your pocket when you go out and expect you to pay for everything. Then they want to get married," he said, explaining why he became a Kamakia.

The financial rewards can also be significant. Some Kamakia earn enough in commission to spend the winter in Scandinavia, where they claim their olive-coloured skin puts them in demand.

Fear of the deadly Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) virus has made an impact among this renowned class of Greek males, who firmly believe in their sexual prowess.

"Of course we're worried. We use condoms and look very carefully at whom we're going with," added the man as he lounged on his motorbike in Athens' central Syntagma square.

A blood test for AIDS earlier this year was negative, he said.

Many northern European women holiday in Greece expressly to find a Greek lover. Two years ago a group of Swedish women on Crete complained to the island's police that the fear of AIDS had scared off the local men.

Greece has the lowest AIDS rate in the European community with 194 reported cases

(19 cases per million on population), Dr George Papaevangelou, vice-president of the AIDS Prevention Society, said.

He attributed the low rate in part to a successful public information campaign which has prevented the epidemic from taking off.

However, some Kamakia hanging around Syntagma on the prowl for tourists are dismissive of the AIDS threat.

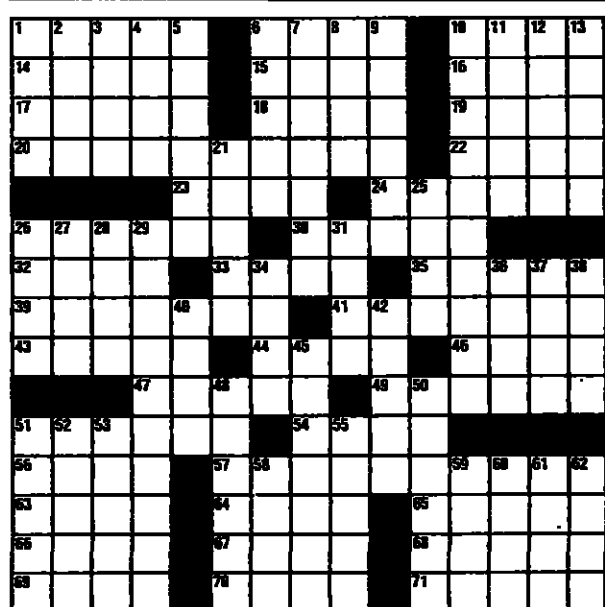
"It's a myth, just a myth," said one of them, slouching over his motorbike. He estimates he has slept with more than 2,000 women in his time.

But his colleagues on the tourist island of Rhodes are taking the matter more seriously.

The island's Kamakia formed an association in April with members required to carry an identification card showing a negative AIDS test.

The card will also entitle them to discounts at local cafes, restaurants and discos — the natural habitats of the Kamakia who usually fall into the 35-35 age-range.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Benny
 - Goodman's kingdom
 - Blackthorn
 - Mod musical
 - Hard hit ball
 - Duck
 - Spanish stew
 - Grid turf
 - Rico
 - Jamaican resort
 - Norse god
 - Raise the curtain
 - Furniture wood
 - homo
 - Edits
 - Reluctant
 - Pitcher's bag
 - South Pacific setting
 - Parental admonition
 - Poker play
 - Slipped away
 - One of Santa's reindeer
 - Upright
 - If not
 - Aleutian Islands
 - Mother-of-pearl
 - Fits
 - Fluffy wool
 - Role for a diva
 - Go-getter
 - Free-for-all
 - Regimen
 - Kind of processing
 - Rangoon's location
 - Gaelic
 - Unyielding
 - Lawful
 - Whitetail
 - Being: Lat.
 - Related maternally

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

LAOS WATCH PERI
AMON ACARI AVID
LOSANGELES GATE
OREGON ESS ONEA
DEPOT ADS
NAPS RAF FLAVOR
OLIOS STPAT TBO
METONESWATERLOO
ANT ODEON RILLS
DESERT CES MEET
REE PILOT
POUR TET USURPS
ABRI BRIDGEPORT
LOGE ALEPH ALOE
LEHR RESTS SEAT

GOVERN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
TRUMP COUP TIMMY IS BORN

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

- Void
- A K Q 3
- K Q 10 5 2
- J 10 9 8

WEST

- Void
- J 9 8 5 2
- A J 7 6 4 3
- 4 3

EAST

- J 9 7 6 5 3 2
- 7 6 4
- Void
- K Q 5

SOUTH

- A K Q 10 8 4
- 10
- 9 8
- A 7 6 2

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	3 ♠	Dbl	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠

Trump Coup Tommy, familiar to readers of this column for his uncanny ability to perform miracles when faced with a daunting trump break, yet unable to land even the simplest of contracts, was inordinately proud of his younger son, Tim. While studying romance languages in Europe, Timmy had won a place on his temporary home's Junior European Championship team. What's more, he was showing

some signs of being a chip off the old block, as this hand shows.

West's three-club overall promised a red two-suiter. North intended his double as a request to let him have the right of way, but Timmy interpreted it as showing club values; hence his jump to four spades based on presumed fillers for his side suit.

Ace of diamonds and another would have resulted in a one-trick set, since East must come to two more black-suit winners. The club lead, however, gave Timmy a chance he was quick to seize. He captured the queen with the ace and learned the bad news when he cashed the ace of trumps. He took dummy's three top hearts, discarding diamonds from hand, then ruffed a diamond as East discarded a club.

Now Timmy exited with a club. East won but, down to nothing but trumps, he had no choice about his exit card. Declarer's eight was good enough to win the trick, and he exited with another club. East was forced to ruff and lead away from his jack of trumps, allowing declarer to score his ten. In all, Timmy made six trump tricks, three hearts and the ace of clubs for his contract.



"I' b spled, I' b spill ab de benpisp."

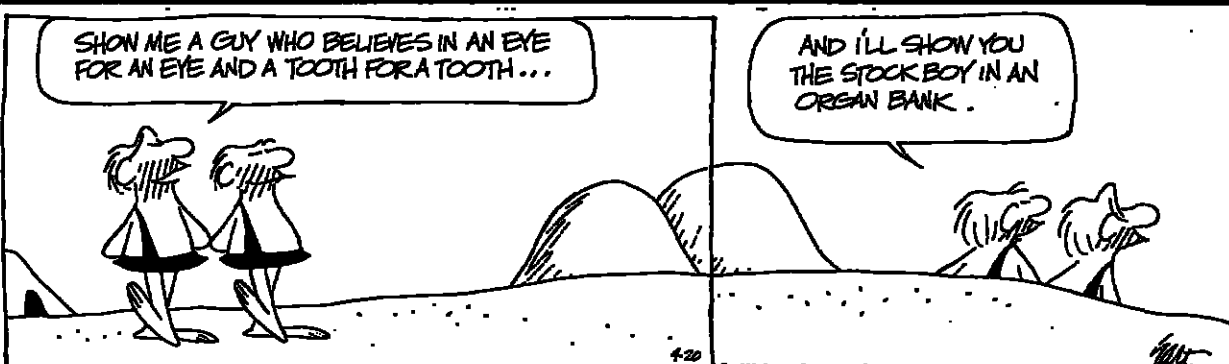
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

At first the situation will be confused but you will soon find a way out of the predicament you are in. You should use just a little more commonsense. You will be more easily persuaded, so beware. Be more objective.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Things are not at all what they appear to be so watch out. Rely more on yourself, then you will have to rely less on others. You will be able to utilize a good opportunity. Be amenable.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You should not take everything quite so seriously, but nor should you be too frivolous. If you are in too much of a rush you will have to go over things again. You will have something to be pleased about. Be more patient.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Something you have been hoping will happen will not now do so. You should not resort to gloomy or negative thoughts. Though you might have some luck, do not rely on it to get you out of trouble. Be tolerant.

Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You will be in a more jolly frame of mind, but do not think that everything is a joke. The solution to a problem will come to you in a flash. You should try not to allow your emotions to get out of control. Be realistic.

Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will have to do something to curb your expenditure. The state of your health should be of concern to you, but there is no need to become hypochondriac. You must take special care when on the road. Be tactful.

Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You will find it easier to get on with what has to be done. You should make sure you do not lose sight of your objectives. Your lucky numbers are 23 and 13. A friend will appreciate and be grateful for your advice and support.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

This is going to be an important day for you and you should keep your eyes and ears wide open. There will be some complications in your private life which should be dealt with right away.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will have plenty to do and should not try to do too much all at once. Make sure you have your facts and figures right. Pay due regard to other people's feelings and opinions. Be a little more versatile.

Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

You should not do anything too strange or adventurous just now, the time is not right. You should make sure you do not allow your health to deteriorate. Try to keep calm and do not let yourself be provoked. Be responsive.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You should not let yourself be dissuaded by some small obstacle. Try to find a little more time for reading. You should make sure you do not mistake some minor matter for an important one. Be reliable.

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

If you keep calm when dealing with a nervous person you will get your way in the end. You will be able to do something more positive. Avoid being in too great a hurry, but do not sit back and allow things to happen either. Be perceptive.

The human body

THE human body is a complex machine. All the parts perform their own tasks, but work together as a whole. The body is composed of millions of minute cells which form the various tissues, including bone and cartilage. Others group together to form organs such as the heart and lungs.

The adult human body is 70 per cent water. Breaking it up into elements, the body contains 65 per cent oxygen, 18 per cent carbon, 10 per cent hydrogen, 3 per cent nitrogen, 1 1/2 per cent calcium, 1 per cent phosphorus, and 1 1/2 per cent of a number of other elements.

There are several vital body systems and sense organs:

The **nervous system** regulates all the other systems. The main parts are the central nervous system, which includes the brain and spinal cord, and the peripheral nervous system, which includes the spinal nerves and base of the brain.

The **circulatory system** pumps blood through the body, and consists of the heart and blood vessels. Arteries carry food and oxygen to the tissues, and veins carry away the waste products.

The **respiratory system** controls breathing by the intake of oxygen and expiration of carbon dioxide. This system includes the nose, larynx, trachea, bronchi, and lungs.

The **digestive system** consists of the alimentary canal. Food is broken down and absorbed into the body and waste products are eliminated.

The **urinary system** eliminates waste products from the body fluids and consists of the kidneys, bladder, ureters and urethra.

The **reproductive system** manufactures male and female sex cells. The male reproductive organs include the testes and penis, and the female, the ovaries.

The **skeletal-muscular system** consists of 206 bones and hundreds of muscles providing support, protection, and movement throughout the body.

The **endocrine system** is composed of glands which empty their secretions, called hormones, directly into the blood stream. These help to regulate other body functions.

tions.

The **sense organs** are the ears, eyes, nose, taste-buds, and sensory nerve endings, which respond to heat, cold, touch, and pain.

Parts of the body

alimentary canal Passage along which food passes and undergoes digestion. It consists of the mouth, throat, gullet, stomach, and small and large intestines.

arteries Vessels carrying the blood to the rest of the body from the heart.

blood Fluid passing through the arteries, capillaries, and veins; it carries food and oxygen, and removes waste products.

bladder Pear-shaped sac resting under the right lobe of the liver. It stores bile.

globulin Protein found in the blood plasma; there are three types — alpha, beta, and gamma — all give protection during infections.

haemoglobin Colouring material that forms the red colour of the blood; consists of a protein globin and an iron-containing pigment haematin.

heart Hollow muscular pump that circulates the blood through the blood vessels around the body.

hormones Chemical 'messengers' produced by the endocrine glands and carried by the blood. They influence tissues and organs other than those producing them.

intestine The whole of the alimentary canal below the stomach; length in man, 8.5-9 metres.

joints Meeting place between bones or cartilage. They may be fixed, as in the skull, or highly movable, as in the shoulder or hip.

kidneys Organs situated on either side of the lumbar spine, in the upper abdomen; their main function is to remove liquid waste products from the blood.

larynx The organ of voice, 5 cm in length. It forms part of

it includes fibrous tissue, ligaments, bone, and fat.

corpuscles Minute bodies comprising the solid part of the blood. There are three kinds, red, white, and platelets.

diaphragm A dome-shaped muscle separating the abdomen from the chest. It is the deepest muscle of respiration.

eustachian tubes Passageways leading from the throat to the middle ear, one on either side. They are about 4 cm in length, and open widely during yawning and swallowing.

gall bladder Pear-shaped sac resting under the right lobe of the liver. It stores bile.

globulin Protein found in the blood plasma; there are three types — alpha, beta, and gamma — all give protection during infections.

haemoglobin Colouring material that forms the red colour of the blood; consists of a protein globin and an iron-containing pigment haematin.

heart Hollow muscular pump that circulates the blood through the blood vessels around the body.

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kidneys Organs situated on either side of the lumbar spine, in the upper abdomen; their main function is to remove liquid waste products from the blood.

larynx The organ of voice, 5 cm in length. It forms part of

the higher air passages.

ligaments Strong bands of fibrous tissue which bind the bones together at joints.

liver The largest gland in the body, dark brown in colour. It has several vital functions. It is a storehouse of vitamins and proteins; it makes bile, a digestive fluid; and converts glucose from the blood into animal starch.

lungs Organs for breathing. Man has a right and left lung, on either side of the chest.

muscles Tissues which are able to contract and so produce movement. There are about 620 voluntary muscles in the body.

nerves Body tissues that transmit electrical impulses, stimulating either movement or sensation.

oesophagus The tube through which food and drink pass down the throat into the stomach.

pancreas Gland secreting pancreatic juices, and which aid the digestion. It contains the Islets of Langerhans, cells which form insulin.

phagocytes White blood corpuscles capable of destroying bacteria that gain entry to the body.

plasma The straw-coloured watery part of the blood.

spine An important part of the skeleton; forms a pillar supporting the upper part of the body. It is composed of 26 separate bones placed upon one another.

stomach A part of the alimentary canal. The chief function is to warm, store, and soften food, treating it with digestive juices, before passing it into the intestines.

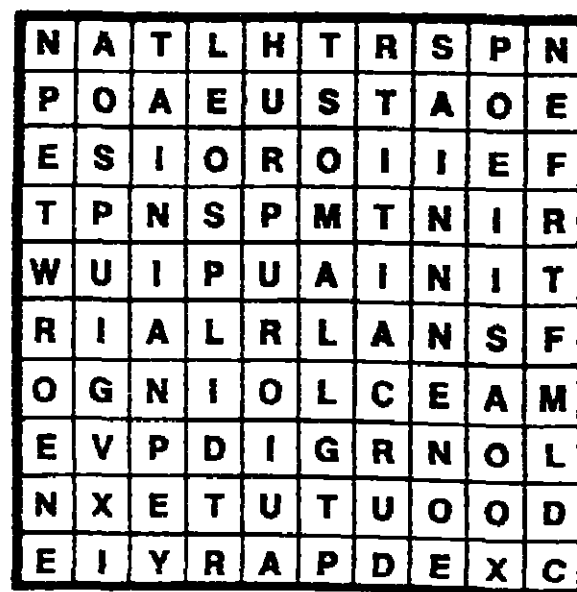
tendons Cords of fibrous tissue that attach the ends of the muscle to bone or other structures.

veins Vessels that return blood to the heart after it has circulated to the rest of the body.

Word search

THE FINISH

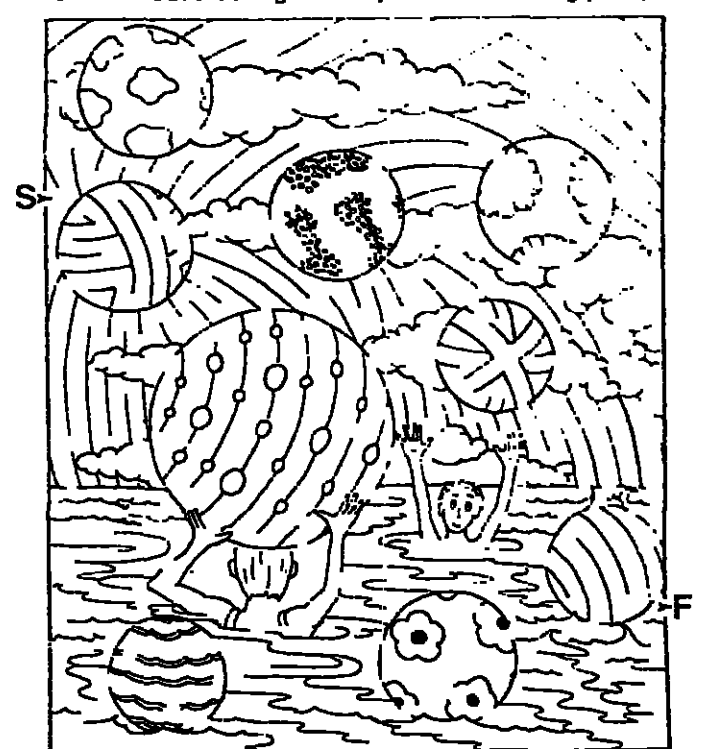
AT REST	LAST
CONCLUSION	OVER
DOOM	REAR
EPILOGUE	RUN OUT
EXPIRATION	STOPPAGE
FINALITY	TERMINAL
FINISH	WIND UP



Clue Gives explanations in a book (8 letters)

Maze

Begin at the S on the left and see if you can make your way to the finish F without crossing over any lines or retracing your path.



Happy birthday



Merrill S. John celebrated his ninth birthday on Sunday. Belated greetings from mum, dad and relatives.



Sabina S. John will be celebrating her birthday soon. Best wishes from mum, dad and relatives.

Young poets

Cat of Cats

I am a cat of cats, I am the everlasting cat. Cunning and old, and sleek as jam, the everlasting cat. My eyes are as yellow as light, the everlasting cat. And I can see through the

night, the everlasting cat. My kittens are black and bright, the everlasting cat. My shadow is black as night, the everlasting cat. Jumana Kawmy KG - ASK

Cryptoquizzes

A cryptoquiz is a list of related words put into a simple code. Spot familiar words by their 'patterns' of repeated or double letters, and you can solve the rest, for if a G stands for M in one word, it will be the same throughout the list. A new code is used for each cryptoquiz.



1. JEWELRY MAKINGS

Example: silver
O L I W
H I C E F G K R
W F C R L G W V
U L A C I
H S C A I V
P S C W V
A K P F S V
E K A T K L F V S
S R S A C I W V
O C A G S E V

2. OCCUPATIONS INVOLVING FOOD

Example: grocers
L M Y A V R Z E
L S G R Z E
T S Z O R Z E
N S J Y R Z E
N S J Y Z R E E R E
L M E L F B E
Q Z F H M A R L M B R Z E
E V F Z Y P Z H R Z
A F F G E
Q S E Y Z B A V R T E

Dear Junior Readers,

To all you litter bugs: beware!
The director of the Kuwait Municipality will soon give teachers official authority to issue fines to any of you who throw rubbish on the ground, whether on school premises or outside.
Most of you, I hope, are already aware that littering is considered a form of being uncivilised. It reveals how uncaring and careless an individual is towards life in general.
So after you eat your ice-cream or crisps or fruit or sandwich or chocolate look for the closest bin and throw away waste material there.
After you quench your thirst with a Pepsi, strawberry, milk or orange juice find the bin before deciding to disperse your can or carton.
After you blow your nose or dry your sweat throw your tissue in the bin (and make sure it goes in).
Finally, always remember the golden proverb "Cleanliness is next to Godliness."

Mamul

Join the dots



Town and Around

E P S O M
C O W E S
D O V E R
S T O K E
H Y T H E

Take one letter only from each English town in turn (in the order in which they are given) and so spell out the 5-letter name of a Scottish town.

Two Missing

In each sentence, two 8-letter words are missing, and the second may be formed from the first merely by changing a single letter.

1. Sportsmen may regard — shooting as a — occupation.
2. The new — looked so — that people were afraid of him.
3. When Jones announced that he had a new — there was much — and congratulation.
4. The — was so popular that it was played at many —.

Change Partners

The adjectives have got themselves linked up with the wrong nouns. Can you straighten things out and so form eight natural phrases? All the words must be used, and none more than once.

AWFUL DRESS
BLIND EVENT
CLOSE STORY
EMPTY HOURS
FANCY SHAVE
FINAL WORDS
FISHY SIGHT
SMALL ALLEY

Colour me



ARAB TIMES Classifieds

FOR RENT

Villas, half villas, buildings and flats with or without swimming pool.
AL AZRAQ
REAL ESTATE
Tel. 2452199
2452198

FOR RENT

Big villas, small villas, half villas and also stores are available in all areas of Kuwait.
Messiah Beach Real Estate
Tel. 2401858
2408510

BOODAI CARGO

International Freight Forwarder
★ World-wide door to door service
★ Customs Clearance
★ Packing-Forwarding
★ Air-Sea-Trucking
Tel. 4837650

T.V. Antenna

GULF ENGLISH CHANNELS
Call Tel. 4843720 4844573
B.E. & A. Co.
MR. ABUGHOSH

CARPET CLEANING

Sofa and General Cleaning at your premises!
Contact
GULF DAWN
Establishment
Tel. 5624725

ATTENTION UK EXPATRIATES!

For independent advice on:
★ Mortgages ★ Pension planning
★ Savings ★ UK taxation
★ Lump sum investments etc.
Call Alan or Bob of Ocean, P.O. Box 66136, Bayan 43753 Kuwait on 536444 any time.
*Part of the community not hotel based.

Required Secretary

Must be fluent in English and preferably know Arabic too, and have some knowledge in commerce/finance.
Contact Tel: 4846815-4846830

CARPENTER

Having experience in wooden framing for pictures and paintings, with transferable residence only.
Contact: 4841311 from 9 am - 4 pm

REQUIRED SALESMAN

For Electronics and Chemicals
Should have valid Kuwaiti driving licence and transferable residence. Preferable age up to 35 years.
For appointment contact Tel: 2416632/2416684 between 08.30 am - 12.30 pm
04.30 pm - 08.30 pm

FOR RENT

Villas, half villas, flats, complete buildings, offices in all areas in Kuwait with or without swimming pool
Qatar Real Estate
Tel. 2406592, 2406593

Wanted Instrument Technicians

With transferable visa to join immediately. Persons with driving licence will be an advantage.
Pis call on 2405186/2409239 for interview.

WANTED

1. Assistant Civil Engineer 1-2 years experience
2. Light Driver 1-2 years experience.
Both candidates should be Arabs with valid Kuwaiti driving licence and transferable residence.
Contact Tel: 2420586

WANTED

IBA KAMI KAPAG CARGO ANG PINAG - USAPAN DOOR TO DOOR PHILIPPINES
484-6009

WANTED

SHOPKEEPER
(Part-time, 6-8 pm only) for a stationery shop in Kuwait Souk.
Tel: 2404665

Wanted Cafeteria helper & workers

3/4 years experience with certificates.
Fluent in Arabic & English.
Applicant must have a transferable visa.
Please contact tel number 2456363 during office hours.
(AT4-47306-3)

Computer Stars International

announces the following services:
Samsung PC, EXY, AT, Consultance, programmes, training, accessories, disc copying only KD 0.500 fls.
Nagra Othman Street
Al Salam Towers
Showroom No. 16
Tel: 2621345

Required

An establishment requires
Installation Electricians
Tel. 2651245 from 4.30 - 9.00 pm

Required

Experienced salesman
Should have valid licence.
For immediate appointment.
Contact Tel. 4743950-4746258

REQUIRED

First class tailors
for a ladies' workshop. Must have transferable residence.
Tel. 2626525 Ghayath.

FOR RENT

2 deluxe new villas in Jabriya near Netherlands embassy. Each 3 floors, private entrance for each floor. Contains 5 bedrooms with cupboards, 4 bathrooms. Central AC, swimming pool, intercom etc.
Contact tel. 2417975 & 2457274.

شركة النقيب وخطار W.I.I.

Airfreight your personal effects DOOR TO DOOR
484-6009



Oh, No! One is missing!!
I should have called **Alghanim...**
No one does it better.
The biggest IATA Freight agent in Kuwait.

Alghanim
Sea-Freight-Air
Packing
Fahadheel 3822496/8 - Sharq 2400772/3
Murgab 2412285/2416881

Customer Services Tel. 4745533

JOB OPPORTUNITY

A large company in Kuwait has a need for T.V., video, radio cassette and small electrical home appliances
Technicians

Candidates must possess:

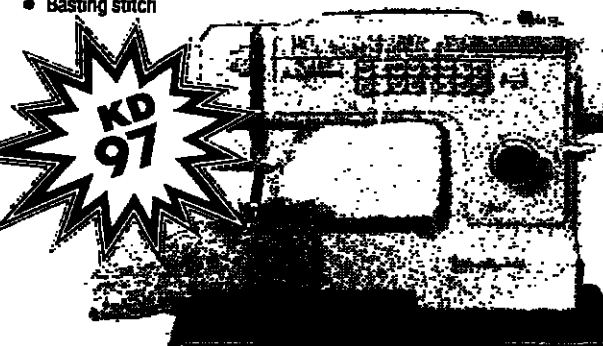
- Valid Kuwaiti driving licence
- Minimum of 5 years experience
- Transferable residence

Qualified candidates are kindly requested to call on 2433881 ext. 66.

BUY NOW AND SAVE

OLYMPIA AUTOMATIC SEWING MACHINES

- Model SZA-1008 N
- Push button control for all operations - makes it simple to select 17 built-in stitches
- 2-touch buttonholer without burning fabric
- Besting stitch
- Double needle sewing
- Snap-on feet - no screwdriver needed
- Lightweight - easy to carry
- 3 years guarantee



AGENTS **QIRTAS & GAJRIA**
FAHAD SALEM ST., OPP. ALGHANIM PHARMACY
TEL: 2414728 / 739

VACANCY

An established stationery and office supplies establishment requires well experienced
1 Driver
1 Salesman (outdoor) 1 Salesman (Indoor)
The first two posts require possession of a valid driving licence.
Transferable visa is a must for all posts.
Please send in your resume to P.O. Box 24252 Safat, P.C. 13103

REQUIRED COOK

Experience in Oriental and Western menu.
Please contact: Mr. Mousa —
Tel: 2434681

FORM ARABIA

New and used, teak and light oak furniture. Beds and sofa sets at half price.
Visit our showroom open from 8 am - 12 noon and 5 - 8 pm, Saturday to Thursday.
Telephone: 4878009/010/815

Al Maha Carpet Showroom

Afghan Handmade Carpets
Newly opened and offers you very fair prices.
Ibn Khaldoun St, Hawalli
Tel. 2622181, 2648382

LEADING ELECTRONICS CO.

REQUIRES
AIR-CONDITIONER TECHNICIAN

QUALIFICATIONS:

- WELL EXPERIENCED.
- VALID DRIVING LICENSE
- TRANSFERRABLE VISA

Send your resume to:
P.O. Box 1154, 13012 Safat, Kuwait.

ضرورت ہے

ایک بڑی انٹرنیشنل کمپنی کو اعلیٰ تکنیکی تجربے کے حامل اور کمیشنیشن کی ضرورت ہے۔
امیدوار کے پاس کویتی ڈرائیونگ لائسنس اور قابل انتقال ویزے کا ہونا ضروری ہے۔
اپنی درخواستیں درج ذیل پتے پر روانہ کریں۔
ص ب ۱۱۵۴، کوڈ نمبر ۱۳۰۱۲ صفات کویت

اہل امیدوار

WANTED

for immediate employment

- Foreman experienced in metal kitchen works.
- Skilled Workers in metal kitchens & furniture.
- Maintenance Technician specialised in refrigeration and electricity.
- Maintenance Technician specialised in hotel equipment.
- Carpenters experienced in fixing & assembly of kitchens.
- Sales men & women preferably experienced in kitchens.

Persons experienced in kitchens who have Kuwaiti driving licence and transferable residence only need to apply for all above vacancies.
For applying please call Tel: 4812530/4847539

ACCOMMODATION

For Rent

SHAMIYA, in a nicely located area. A beautiful villa with 7 bedrooms, 4 baths, CAC, very clean. Tel. 2626484.

(AT3-47299-3)

QURTUBA, one floor of deluxe villa, CAC with 5 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 3 bathrooms, intercom and separate entrance. Rent KD430. Tel. 5313656, 4-10 pm.

(AT4-47309-3)

BAYAN, Area 4, House No. 30. First floor of a villa with 4 bedrooms, 3 halls, 2 kitchens, 2 baths with separate entrance. Tel. Mr. Abu Ahmed, 2429796 mornings, 5383536 evenings.

(AT3-47302-3)

MISHREF, On the main road. One storey villa with 5 bedrooms, 3 saloons, 4 baths, fitted cupboards, servant's quarter, CAC, garden and garage. Rent KD700. Tel. 5324848.

(AT2-47281-3)

MISHREF, Part of a villa with 2 bedrooms, bathrooms, laundry room, large saloon, including balcony and separate entrance. Rent KD300. Tel. 2400048.

(AT2-TM-3)

JABRIYA, Deluxe villa, suitable for an embassy or ambassador. Tel. Mr. Abdul Aziz, 5311119, 9030652.

(AT2-47288-3)

Available

KHALDIYA, Tarabulsi Street, Building No. 1, House No. 8. One single room for two Goan/Mangalorean bachelors. Bus routes 19, 21, 12, 42, 34, 31, 18, 101. Tel. Fatima 4714153.

(AT2-47479-3)

RIGGAI, near the Ministry of Electricity and Water. Room for a Filipino couple or ladies. Tel. 4880904, 7.30 am - 9 pm.

(AT3-47303-3)

SALMIYA, near the Salmiya Garden. One room with water and electricity for bachelors or a working lady to share with an Indian family. Tel. Abdul Kareem 4838426, 8 am - 1 pm, 4-7 pm.

(AT3-47326-3)

SALMIYA, Bldg. No. 9, behind fire station. One spacious room with separate kitchen, water and electricity for a family or two working girls to share with an Indian family. Rent KD80. Tel. Vipin Oberoi, 4740801, 7.30 am - 1 pm, 4.30 - 7.30 pm.

(AT3-47312-3)

FOR SALE

Furniture

FURNITURE, 3 pieces, used 6 months only, KD70, curtains KD65, carpets KD50. All are in excellent condition. Tel. 5320245.

(AT4-5320245-3)

Cars

NISSAN Liberta 1984, white, 4 door, automatic, AC, sunroof, hatchback, 70,000 kms, in good condition, KD900, cash or instalments. Tel. 5653952.

(AT4-47322-3)

MITSUBISHI Galant Royal 1988, full options, in excellent condition, for best price. Tel. 5743169.

(AT2-47272-3)

CHEVROLET Caprice station wagon (box) 1987, recently imported, automatic, power steering, brake, AC, stereo, golden brown colour, roof rack, 35,000 kms, in excellent condition, KD4,000 ono. Tel. Mr. Khan, 5317885.

(AT4-47319-3)

HYUNDAI Excel 1988, purchased in Nov 1988, only 11,000 kms, silver colour, sunroof, 4 doors, automatic, lady driven, excellent, brand new condition, KD1,500, cash. Tel. 5626161, 5613359, anytime from 9 am.

(AT4-47307-3)

TOYOTA Crown Super Saloon, 1984, black, 4 doors, automatic, AC, 62,000 kms, insured upto April 1990, KD1,900, cash or instalments. Tel. 2403260.

(AT4-47322-3)

MITSUBISHI Colt 1986, dark blue, automatic, AC, 4 doors, insured upto Dec 89, 40,000 kms, KD1,000, cash or instalments. Tel. 2401908.

(AT4-47322-3)

SUZUKI SJ410 Jeep, 1984, AC, manual, blue, 35,000 kms, soft top, in very good condition. KD600 cash. Tel. 5313494, anytime.

(AT2-47282-3)

RANGE Rover 1983, automatic, red, AC, 84,000 kms, power steering, 5 doors insured upto December 1989, KD2,200, ono. Tel. 5636894, after 2 pm.

(AT3-47274-3)

MAZDA 929, 1982 5 speed manual, KD700 cash. Tel. Ellen, 3901546 ext 19 after 7 pm.

(AT3-47297-3)

COLT hatchback, 1983, 84,000 kms, 4 speed, AC, runs perfectly, KD425 ono. Tel. 5315918 after 2.30 pm.

(AT2-47277-3)

Miscellaneous

NIKKOR zoom lens 80-200, good as new, KD160. Tel. Chito, 2438011 ext. 229.

(AT2-47273-2)

FLAT for sale in Salmiya, 2 bedrooms, CAC, European style for best price. Rent KD180. Tel. 5743169.

(AT2-47272-3)

QUEEN-SIZE bed, large wardrobe, children's bedroom sets, washer and dryer, and other household items, for sale. Tel. 3946836.

(AT4-47306-3)

SALWA, near the American, Gulf English and Universal American School; two bedrooms, dining hall, CAC, with few household items for sale. Present rent KD190. Tel. Dias, 5614534, 5617312.

(AT2-47289-3)

FAHAHEEL, central Makkah Street, in an excellent location, fully furnished apartment with 2 bedrooms, furniture, electrical appliances, large sitting room, furniture and table for sale. Rent KD125. Tel. 3713507, 3914248.

(AT2-47280-3)

BROTHER sewing machine, Sony stereo cassette deck, Sony radio and amplifier, Sony speakers, all are in good condition. Tel. 3721354, 4-10 pm.

(AT3-47301-3)

COMPLETE household, including furniture, household appliances, TVs, videos, fridges, oven, dishwasher, washing machine, dryer, carpets and curtains. Tel. Jankilik Ernst, 5631809.

(AT2-47254-3)

COMPLETE bedset, 5 door cupboard, double bed, dressing table, 2-side oval glass dining table with 6 chairs, 1 sofa set, 3 seater, 2 single. Tel. 5749162, 5749163, Mr. Mazhar.

(AT4-47246-3)

HOUSEHOLD items, Italian sofa set 3+2+1, dining table with 6 chairs, 4 single beds, cupboards and chest of drawers, AEG washing machine, gas cooker and Samsung VCR. Tel. Mr. Boutros, 5642006, 1-4 pm.

(AT4-47289-3)

LOST

GERMAN Shepherd dog, black female, lost in Surra, Area 3. Reward offered. Tel. 5332709, 5-6 pm.

(AT4-47329-3)

PETS

PERSIAN cats, very cute; silver shaded, house-trained, 8 weeks old, for sale. Tel. 5741154.

(AT4-47324-3)

CAT: good home needed for a young female black cat and an OAP Siamese male, both house-trained. Tel. 5642894, 2-4 pm.

(AT4-47313-2)

PERSIAN cats with papers, white and black, long hair, very beautiful, house-trained. Owners leaving Kuwait. Tel. 5320245.

(AT4-47321-3)

ENGLISH Collie needs new family. Tel. 5334170.

(AT4-47308-3)

SITUATIONS

Vacant

MAID required, Filipino, for a British family, to live-in in Fahsheel. Must speak good English. Salary negotiable. Tel. 3725345.

(AT2-47293-3)

MAID required, Filipino, for a small family, to live-in. Must speak English and have transferable visa. Tel. 2633904.

(AT4-47329-2)

MAID required, Filipino (Muslim) for a small Kuwaiti family. Tel. Mr. Karim 4849165, 4849236, 8 am - 1 pm.

(AT2-47292-3)

MAID required, Filipino to work with a small family at Salmiya. Residence can be provided. Tel. 5629267, 4-7 pm.

(AT3-47304-2)

Wanted

BRITISH family seeks employment for their dependable experienced Indian maid. Excellent English, transferable residence, to live-in, would prefer European family. Tel. Marthe, 2640371.

(AT4-47318-3)

EUROPEAN family leaving Kuwait, intends to transfer the residence visa of their hardworking, trustworthy maid, experienced to keep children, fulltime. Tel. 5380214.

(AT3-47300-3)

SERVICES

Transport

AVAILABLE from Salmiya to Shuwaikh or Kuwait City for working hours. Tel. Patrick, 5617492, 10.30 to 5.30 pm.

(AT3-47310-2)

REQUIRED for a lady from Abbasiya near the Gulf Super Market to Shuwaikh, Arab Times office, 10.30 am (one way). Tel. 4813566 ext 287, 11 am - 7 pm.

(AT3-THR-MJ-3)

WANTED

ANY right hand drive car, any model or year. Tel. Robin 5334695.

(AT3-47295-3)

SPORTS

Gilbert rides Pearl Bracelet to victory

PARIS, May 15, (Reuter): Pearl Bracelet sprang a 50-1 shock when winning the Poule d'Essai des Poulaches (French 1,000 Guineas) horse racing classic for three-year-old fillies at Longchamp yesterday.

Alfred Gilbert, deputising for the suspended Tony Cruz, brought the filly with a strong last furlong (200 metres) run to beat the English-trained Pass The Peace by three-quarters of a

length with hot favourite Golden Opinion the same distance away in third.

There were 16 runners for the one mile (1.6 km) race, the second classic of the French season.

The winner, whose only previous outing ended in a third place in a maiden race at Saint Cloud last November, was a major success for first-season

trainer Roger Wojtowicz.

Wojtowicz has taken over the Chantilly-based string of one of France's major owners Mahmoud Foustok since the one-year suspension of Georges Mikhalides over prohibited substances found in two of his horses.

Pearl Bracelet will now go for next month's Prix de Diane (French Oaks), which is also the target for Pass The Peace.

The other group one race on the card, the Prix Lupin, open to three-year-old colts and fillies, also resulted in a shock when the 100-30-on favourite along all, who had been touted as a possible Epsom Derby contender, trailed in fourth of six behind impressive five-length winner Galetto.

Galetto, ridden by Eric Legrix, will now run in next month's Prix du Jockey Club (French Derby).

Baseball Roundup

Puckett and Viola help Twins rout Blue Jays

NEW YORK, May 15, (AP): Kirby Puckett equalled a Major League-record for doubles in consecutive games and Frank Viola tied a career-high with 11 strikeouts as the Minnesota Twins trounced Toronto Blue Jays 13-1 yesterday.

Puckett, who had four doubles on Saturday, added two more yesterday to tie a record set by 12 players. It was last accomplished by Hank Majeski of the Philadelphia Athletics in 1948. Puckett has seven hits in his last nine at-bats.

Viola, 2-5, allowed three hits and walked one in eight innings as the Twins won their fifth straight game. Viola had struck out 11 twice before in his career, the last time on Aug. 8, 1987, against Oakland.

Indians 8, Tigers 3

Tom Candiotti allowed eight hits in 8 2-3 innings and Pete O'Brien drove in three runs with a homer and double as Cleveland beat Detroit.

The Tigers have lost nine of their last 12 games and have scored an American League-low 114 runs in 34 games.

White Sox 8, Orioles 5

Ivan Calderon, Fred Manrique and Ron Kittle each hit two-run homers, leading Chicago past Baltimore. Kittle was 4-for-5 with three runs scored.

Each of the Chicago's season-high three homers came with the White Sox trailing by a run as they won for the fourth time in five games on their current road trip.

Angels 5, Yankees 0

Chuck Finley and Greg Minton combined on an eight-hitter for California's eighth shutout of the season as the Angels beat New York.

Finley, 4-2, allowed seven hits in six innings. Greg Minton relieved after singles by Tom Brookens and Alvaro Espinoza leading off the seventh and finished for his fourth save, allowing one hit.

Brewers 2, Athletics 1

Glenn Braggs, who homered in the second inning, broke a tie in the ninth with a run-scoring single as Milwaukee beat Oakland to snap a four-game losing streak.

Gary Sheffield led off the ninth with a single off strike Mike Moore, 4-3. One out later, Rob Deer walked. After B.J. Surhoff popped out, Braggs hit a hard liner that glanced off second baseman Glenn Hubbard and into short center field.

Chuck Crim, 2-2, got the win in relief and Dan Plesac earned his sixth save.

Mariners 4, Red Sox 3

Jim Presley snapped a sixth-inning tie with a run-scoring double and rookie Omar Vizquel hit a two-run triple as Seattle beat Boston.

Ellis Burks had tied the score 3-3 in the sixth inning with a solo home run, his sixth, off starter Erik Hanson.

Results

National League			
Montreal	4	San Francisco	3
New York	2	San Diego	1
Los Angeles	9	Philadelphia	0
Atlanta	2	Pittsburgh	2
Cincinnati	2	St. Louis	2
Houston	5	Chicago	1
American League			
Chicago	8	Baltimore	5
Cleveland	17	Detroit	3
Minnesota	13	Toronto	2
Kansas City	3	Texas	2
California	5	New York	0
Milwaukee	2	Oakland	1
Seattle	4	Boston	3

Standings

American League Eastern Division			
	W	L	P
Boston	17	17	.500
Cleveland	17	17	.500
New York	17	18	.486
Baltimore	15	19	.441
Milwaukee	15	19	.441
Toronto	12	24	.333
Detroit	11	23	.324
Western Division			
Oakland	24	12	.667
California	23	13	.639
Kansas City	23	13	.639
Texas	20	15	.571
Seattle	20	18	.526
Minnesota	16	18	.471
Chicago	16	20	.444

National League Eastern Division

New York	20	14	.588
St. Louis	19	16	.543
Montreal	20	17	.541
Chicago	17	18	.486
Philadelphia	15	19	.442
Pittsburgh	14	20	.412
Western Division			
Cincinnati	20	15	.571
San Francisco	19	17	.528
Atlanta	18	19	.486
Houston	17	19	.472
Los Angeles	16	18	.471
San Diego	18	21	.462

Lakers reach finals

Pistons blast Bucks

SEATTLE, Wash., May 15, (Agencies): The Los Angeles Lakers erased a 29-point deficit to beat the Seattle SuperSonics 97-95 yesterday and advance to the Western Conference finals.

The dramatic come-from-behind victory completed a 4-0 sweep of Seattle in the best-of-seven game series as Los Angeles became the first team to advance to the final four.

The defending champion Lakers next play the winner of the other semifinal between the Phoenix Suns and the Golden State Warriors for the right to represent the Western Conference in the National Basketball Association championship series.

The Suns lead Golden State 3-1 with the fifth game scheduled for tomorrow.

The SuperSonics came out on fire yesterday and looked sure to stave off elimination as they, raced out to a commanding 41-12 lead.

But midway through the second quarter the Lakers began to chip away as the Sonics began missing their shots.

At halftime Los Angeles was down by 11 points — 64-43 — and had whittled the deficit down to eight — 71-63 — by end of the third quarter.

The Lakers grabbed the lead for the first time with six minutes 14 seconds remaining when Orlando Woolridge sank a pair of free throws to put his team ahead 81-80.

James Worthy paced the Los Angeles comeback with a game-high 33 points. Xavier McDaniel was the high scorer for Seattle with 30 points.

Bulls 106, Knicks 93

Despite a groin injury, Michael Jordan scored 47 points to lead the Chicago Bulls to a 106-93 victory over the New York Knicks and a 3-1 lead in their best-of-7 series.

The Bulls can wrap it up with a victory in New York tomorrow night. If not, the sixth game will be played in Chicago next Thursday night.

Hobbling at the start with a strained left groin, Jordan scored



Isiah Thomas

18 of his points in the fourth quarter.

After New York's Kiki Vandeweghe scored to cut Chicago's lead to 81-79, Jordan scored a basket, added a free throw and then set up Scottie Pippen for another basket and an 86-79 lead. Jordan then scored eight of Chicago's next 10 points for a 96-90 lead. And he capped the victory with a three-point play with 1:33 left for a 101-92 margin.

Johnny Newman, held scoreless Saturday, led the Knicks with 23 points.

Pistons 110, Bucks 90

Isiah Thomas scored 15 of his 26 points in the third quarter and the Detroit Pistons routed the injury-depleted Milwaukee Bucks 110-90 to take a commanding 3-0 lead in their Eastern Conference semifinals.

The fourth game was to be played today at the Bradley Center when the Pistons will be shooting for a sweep of their out-manned Central Division rivals.

Mark Aguirre added 15 points and John Salley 14 for the Pistons, who led all the way against the weary Bucks. Detroit took a 22-point lead into the fourth period.

The Bucks, their bench depleted by injuries, suffered another setback when forward Larry Krystkowiak injured ligaments in his left knee as he was driving for the basket 25 seconds into the game. He was carried off the floor on a stretcher and was to undergo surgery today.

Ricky Pierce led Milwaukee with 22 points as Detroit won for the first time in the Bradley Center after three-regular season losses.

Foyt qualifies for 32nd consecutive race

Mears takes Indy pole position

INDIANAPOLIS, May 15, (UPI): Three-time Indianapolis 500 winner Rick Mears shattered qualifying records yesterday, earning an unprecedented fifth Indy pole position and leading a second consecutive front-row sweep by Roger Penske cars.

Mears drove his Chevrolet-powered Penske chassis to a four-lap qualifying average of 223.885 mph (360.298 kph). He toured the 2.1/2 mile (4.02 km) oval in 40.133 seconds on a record fast lap of 224.254 mph (360.89 kph) to earn the inside starting position on the front row for the 73rd Indy Race.

Mears set the previous track records last year with 220.453 mph (354.78 kph) for one lap and 219.198 mph (352.76 kph) for four laps. Mears also drove the fastest lap ever timed at the speedway at 226.231 mph (364.07 kph) in practice Friday, but track records can only be set in qualifying.

Mears moved past A.J. Foyt and Rex Mays in career pole victories with his second straight pole and third in the past four years. Mears is the eighth Indy driver to win consecutive poles, the first since Tom Sneva did it in 1978. Mears also achieved his ninth front-row start, matching the record of Bobby Unser.

Four-time Indy winner Al Unser Sr qualified for the middle of row one with a speed of 223.471 mph (359.63 kph) in his Penske-Chevy. Emerson Fittipaldi, the former world driving champion, completed the front trio of Penske-Chevys at 222.329 mph (357.79 kph). Last year, Mears, Unser and Danny Sullivan each drove Penske-Chevys to the front row.

Penske, whose cars have won eight Indy poles in the last 13 years, sold his design this season to business associate Pat Patrick for Fittipaldi to drive.

Mears, 37, previously won Indianapolis Motor Speedway poles in 1979, 1982, 1986 and 1988. The Bakersfield, California, resident took the checkered flag on race day in 1979, 1984 and 1988.

Five former winners qualified for the May 28 race, including Mears, Foyt, Unser Sr., Bobby Rahal and Mario Andretti.

The largest controversy came when Michael Andretti's qualifying run of 220.940 mph (355.56 kph) was disqualified because his Lola-Chevrolet was 4.5 pounds (2.04 kg) overweight. Andretti was expected to attempt to qualify but the ruling meant he could start no higher than 21st in the provisional grid no matter what his speed.

Foyt qualified for his 32nd consecutive Indy race despite a poor first lap that began before the veteran from Houston realized it had started. Foyt normally takes two warmup laps before starting his qualifying attempt, but this year agreed to make only one preliminary circuit. Foyt forgot that plan as he drove around the track and was unprepared when the green flag fell to begin the attempt.

"I was asleep," Foyt said. "I didn't realize I took the green flag."

Foyt, the oldest driver in the race at age 54, owns the record for career starts at Indy.



Tway (right) lines up a putt on the 18th hole that would assure him a victory. After making the putt, Tway (left) clinches the ball and raises his arm in triumph. (Reuter wirephoto)

Tway wins Memorial tournament

DUBLIN, Ohio, May 15, (Reuter): Bob Tway put together a magnificent finish to overtake Fuzzy Zoeller and win the \$1,004,290 Memorial tournament by two strokes yesterday.

Tway birdied four of his last six holes on the demanding Muirfield Village Golf Club course for a closing round three-under-par 69 and an 11-under-par 277 total.

The victory, worth \$160,000 to the 30-year-old Tway, was his fifth on the US men's Tour but his first since winning the 1986 PGA championship. All of his previous four victories came in 1986.

Zoeller, who led after each of the first three rounds, shot an even-par 72 yesterday for a nine-under-par 279 total. He earned \$96,000.

Payne Stewart, with a seven-under-par 65, finished alone in third place at seven-under-par 281. Mark Calcavecchia and Bruce Lietzke tied for fourth place at 283.

Zoeller had a four-stroke lead early yesterday after he birdied the fourth hole and Tway bogeyed the second and third.

Zoeller encountered problems during the middle of the round, however, as he suffered three bogeys while Tway closed in on the lead.

He was one stroke behind Zoeller after 12 holes before making birdies on the 13th — with a putt of 35 feet — and the par-five 15th hole with an approach to six inches.

Tway then birdied the 17th hole after a great seven-iron shot to within two inches of the cup and birdied the final hole with a 25-foot putt.

Tway said his putting improved after consulting with Tom Weiskopf earlier in the year.

Scores

Leaders after the final round of the \$1,004,290 Memorial tournament at the Muirfield Village Golf Club yesterday (Golfers US unless noted):

277 Bob Tway 71 69 68 69
279 Fuzzy Zoeller 69 66 72 72
281 Payne Stewart 70 73 73 65
283 Mark Calcavecchia 72 68 73 70
Bruce Lietzke 73 70 69 71
284 Scott Verplank 72 73 69 70
285 David Frost (South Africa) 75 71 72 67
Scott Hoch 72 74 69 68, Larry Nelson 72 72 72 69, Raymond Floyd 73 67 73 72
287 Greg Norman (Australia) 75 68 73 71
Tom Byrum 76 71 72 68, Donnie Hamel 72 70 75 70, Dave Rummach 72 72 72 71.

Rarick fires five-under 214 for victory

LINCROFT, N.J., May 15, (Reuter): Cindy Rarick shot a one-under-par 72 yesterday for a five-under 214 and a two stroke victory over Briton Laura Davies at the \$275,000 Women's Classic golf tournament.

Davis, who was briefly tied for the lead, finished alone in second place with a one-over-par 74 for a 216 total.

Defending champion Nancy Lopez and Alice Ritzman tied for third place at two-under 217.

Rarick collected \$41,250 for her victory, while Davies settled for \$25,437.

Rarick, who led after each round, birdied the first and sixth holes to take a three-stroke lead over Davies. Consecutive bogeys on the seventh and eighth holes, however, narrowed the lead to one stroke.

Davis birdied the 10th to move to four-under-par and a tie for the lead, but bogeys on 11 and 13 left the Briton two shots behind Rarick.

Davis could do no better than make par on the closing three holes to clinch second place.

"The third hole was a key hole for me today," said Rarick. "I had a great save from a bunker and that gave me a lot of momentum."

"I feel like this win will do a lot for my career," Rarick continued. "It was my first wire-to-wire win and I proved to myself that I could hang in there and win just like the best of them."

Francia keeps WBC crown

LAUNCESTON, Australia, May 15, (AP): Miguel Angel Francia of Argentina scored a unanimous 12-round points victory over Australian Tony Miller yesterday to keep his World Boxing Council (WBC) International featherweight title.

Francia, 27, used superior reach and strength to dominate Miller throughout the contest.

He built an early points lead and was able to do enough in the closing stages to clinch the bruising affair.

The judges scored the fight 117-111, 119-116 and 118-113 for Francia.

WBC International titles are contested by non-American fighters ranked between 11-30 in their respective divisions.

Sulayem faces Yugoslavian test

Middle East champion seeks European rally win

DUBAI: Middle East champion Mohammed bin Sulayem, who is aiming to become the first Arab driver to win a European Championship rally, breaks new ground when he takes his Winston Toyota Celica GT-4 into action in Yugoslavia later this month.

Sulayem, accepting another valuable opportunity to broaden his experience by competing overseas, will join a line-up of around 120 drivers from 12 countries in the Saturnus Rally on May 26 and 27.

The UAE star will be accompanied by his regular Irish co-driver, Ronan Morgan, for an event expected to lure 200,000 spectators to a 418-km route unwinding through stunning Yugoslavian countryside where the Alps meet the Adriatic Sea.

Although he will face opposition from a pack of highly-experienced competitors with powerful Lancias, BMWs, Peugeots and Ford Sierra Cosworths to contend with, Sulayem is relishing the challenge ahead.

"This will be my sixth rally in Europe, and it could be the toughest so far," said the Winston Toyota driver, who has previously competed in Cyprus,



Sulayem: wants to be the first Arab driver to win in Europe

Spain, Belgium and Turkey. "Every European Championship event is extremely competitive, and there are some very fast cars in this one."

"But it's always good to test your ability, and the ability of your car, against strong opposition, and I'm looking forward to the rally."

Sulayem's best result so far in Europe was a splendid second place in last year's year's Gun-sydn Rally in Turkey, and the Winston Toyota Team Middle

East intend to help him go one better this year, with plans for at least one more excursion into the European Championship.

One of the features of the Saturnus Rally in the heart of Europe will be an exciting opening special stage through the heart city of Ljubljana, watched by around 20,000 spectators and a live television audience.

In all, the two-day rally contains 19 special stages totalling 266-km in length, with a twisting route of gravel roads and asphalt

cutting through the forests between Ljubljana and Portoroz — the finishing point — and demanding maximum concentration.

With Sulayem sharing the lead in the current Middle East series and bidding for his fourth successive regional title, the Saturnus Rally fills a gap in his 1989 schedule following the postponement of this month's Jordan International Rally. The third round of the series is now likely to be staged in August.

The sign of good taste



Made in England

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

Flames win first game of NHL series

CALGARY, Alberta, May 15. (Reuters): The Calgary Flames drew first blood in the best-of-seven National Hockey League (NHL) Stanley Cup Championship series with a 3-2 victory over the Montreal Canadiens yesterday.

Right wing Theoren Fleury took a cross-ice pass from Jamie Macoun and beat Montreal goaltender Patrick Roy with a wrist shot from the left side at 11:45 of the second period to break a 2-2 deadlock.

The Canadiens pulled Roy from the net in favour of an extra skater in the final minute of play in a desperate attempt to score an equaliser and send the game into sudden death overtime.

But Calgary goalie Mike Vernon was up to the task as he made two of his 29 saves with the Canadiens swarming around his net in the closing seconds.

Stephane Richer opened the scoring for the 23-time champion Canadiens less than three minutes into the first period with a power play goal.

Four minutes later, Calgary sharpshooter Al MacInnes took a pass from Joel Otto on a power play and blasted a 50-foot (15-metre) shot past Roy to level the game.

Less than two minutes later MacInnes connected again. He led a three-on-one break when Montreal defenceman Chris Chelios got caught up ice and with another assist from Otto, MacInnes put the Flames ahead 2-1.

Midway through the first period, Montreal's 37-year-old defenceman Larry Robinson, playing in his 198th playoff game — more than any other player in NHL history — levelled the game again.

Robinson attempting a pass instead hit the stick of Calgary defenceman Macoun and the puck deflected into the Flames' goal.

The two best teams in the NHL played tight defensive hockey for the remainder of the game.

Roy, was sharp in the Montreal net as he stopped 32 of Calgary's 35 shots on goal, but was unable to stop Fleury's game winner.

Neither Calgary, in their second Stanley Cup final, nor Montreal, in their 31st final series, was able to score in the final period.

Ruud Gullit may not be fit for European final

GENOA, Italy, May 15. (Reuters): Ruud Gullit, the AC Milan star who has flown home to Amsterdam for treatment, is looking less certain to be fit for the May 24 European Cup final against Steaua Bucharest than he did last week.

"Last Wednesday I was sure Gullit would play in Barcelona but now I am waiting to hear. Barring complications he should return tomorrow. We are hanging in mid-air," AC Milan trainer Arrigo Sacchi said.

Gullit, who had a knee cartilage operation on April 21, had been expected to play at least part of Milan's League match against Sampdoria yesterday.

But he decided to go to the Netherlands for treatment by Dutch physiotherapist and friend Ted Troost on his knee and an inflamed thigh.

Berger overcomes Duncan for US clay court title

CHARLESTON, S.C., May 15. (Reuters): Sixth seed Jay Berger surprised himself by winning his first title of 1989 with a 6-4 6-3 victory over fellow American Lawson Duncan at the \$220,000 US Clay Court Tennis Championships yesterday.

"I've been feeling not so great the whole week and I don't know how I really

won the title," said Berger, who had lost in the first round of his last three tournaments.

"But you can't have played too badly to win a tournament," added the 42-ranked Berger after collecting \$38,000 for his third career Grand Prix title.

"I was feeling pretty bad about my game three weeks ago and to do this feels

good," said Berger. "It just feels great to get a win in the United States," added the sixth seed whose two previous titles came at Sao Paulo in 1988 and Buenos Aires in 1986.

Berger broke the 75-ranked Duncan's serve in the ninth game after three deuces to lead 5-4 in the opening set. In the next game, Berger drilled a service winner at

40-30 to win the set.

Both players had trouble holding serve in the second set. After trading early breaks, Berger moved out to a 5-2 lead on another service break.

Duncan broke back for 5-3 and won the next two points on his serve. But Berger fought back to deuce and captured his unseeded opponent's serve one

last time when Duncan hit a backhand wide and netted a forehand.

"I think Jay played a pretty good match. He didn't make a whole lot of errors," said Duncan.

"I thought maybe I forced a little bit. There were a few balls that just missed that could have turned it around for me," Duncan said.

Lendl brushes aside Skoff for crown

World No. 1 wins West German Open



Lendl returns a ball during his match. (Reuters wirephoto)

Lendl, whose methodical play is perfect for the slow clay surfaces, said he had never felt better

physically leading up to a French Open but remained modest about his chances.

"It's true I am playing with confidence. I seem to have won everything I've touched this

year," he said. "But I'm cautious about Paris. I'm always

The Czechoslovak's recipe for success in his preparations with Australian coach Tony Roche for the most important clay-court tournament in the world is low-key and relaxed.

"The important thing now is for me to practise hard in Monte Carlo but also to have a good time, play golf and go to the movies," he said.

With last year's winner at Roland Garros, Swede Mats Wilander out of touch at the moment and Becker still learning to adapt his serve-and-volley game to clay, there will be very few who would bet against Lendl in Paris.

In today's final he displayed perfect touch, power and accuracy from the baseline, forcing Skoff to stretch to return the ball from the corners of the court.

"It will be every tough for anyone to beat him," Skoff said. "Right now he is playing very, very well. It seems as though he cannot miss a ball."

The Hamburg event, which earned Lendl \$135,000 in prize money, was somewhat of a disappointment for Becker who was hampered by a back injury in yesterday's defeat by Skoff.

The West German hopes to do some late work on his clay-court game when he plays for West Germany in the World Team Cup in Dusseldorf next week.

Italian Open hit by withdrawals

Wilander seeks to stop poor run

ROME, May 15. (Reuters): Mats Wilander is relying on the scenic setting of the Foro Italico in Rome to give him back the confidence he needs to defend his French Open title.

The Swede, top seed for this week's one-million-dollar Italian Open tennis championships, has slipped down the world rankings to fourth — after being number one for four months — with a run of poor results.

Dethroned at the Australian Open, humiliated by West German Carl-Uwe Steeb in last December's Davis Cup final and beaten by Alberto Mancini of Argentina in the Monte Carlo Open semifinals last month, Wilander is a shadow of the man who won three Grand Slam titles only last year.

Wilander, 24, took time off after his second-round defeat by India's Ramesh Krishnan in Australia in January to recharge his

batteries and give the shin splints which had been troubling him since the US Open a chance to mend.

The Swede knows that if he is to have a chance of holding on to the French crown he must first do well on the clay of Rome.

But though he won the Italian title in 1987, Wilander does not have happy memories of last year's open when, after recurring bouts of influenza, he was beaten in the third round by Haitian Ronald Agener.

Like the women's tournament, which ended yesterday, the men's events have been hit by withdrawals with American former world number one John McEnroe and the injured Yannick Noah of France among those pulling out last week.

In their absence Wilander's main rivals will be 19-year-old American Andre Agassi, a

favourite with the Rome crowd, Swedish clay specialist Kent Carlsson, a semifinalist last year, and Olympic champion Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia.

Carlsson was the only one of the top six seeds in action this evening when he played Dutchman Mark Koevermans, ranked 98th in the world.

The fans will also have to wait until later in the week to welcome the return of former US and Wimbledon champion Jimmy Connors, back after a 14-year absence from Rome and seeded fifth. He plays French qualifier Cedric Pioline in his first match.

Last year's beaten finalist Guillermo Perez Roldan of Argentina is back, playing Frenchman Thierry Champion this evening but reigning champion Ivan Lendl, who dislikes the noise and chaos of Rome, has stayed away.

Inspector to look at Worcestershire pitch

LONDON, May 15. (Reuters): English cricket's inspector of pitches has been asked by Worcestershire to look at their ground after their two-day defeat of Australia yesterday.

Harry Brind, pitches consultant to the Test and County Cricket Board, was contacted by Worcestershire secretary Mike Vockins soon after the match finished amid complaints about the quality of the pitch.

TCB secretary Tim Lamb said: "Clearly the pitch used for the match against the Australians fell short of the standard expected for such a match and it fell short of Worcestershire's own expectations of it. Worcestershire and the board are rightly concerned."

"Their groundsman Roy McLaren has worked hard during the winter months endeavouring to improve the conditions of the entire square."

"Both he and Worcestershire are keen to use Harry Brind's expertise to make sure everything possible is being done to meet the requirements laid down by the TCB pitches committee."

Yesterday, former England captain Ian Botham played a key role in the defeat of the Australian cricketers in the first

three-day match of their tour.

The pleasure it gave him was increased by the fact that the three-wicket win was Worcestershire's first against Australia in 87 years of trying.

Stand-in captain Botham struck a vital 42 to add to his first innings 39 as Worcestershire chased a 163-run target on a pitch of variable bounce giving generous movement off the seam.

The Worcester triumph was set up by the 11 for 127 match return of swing bowler Phil Newport, who took 10 of his wickets on the opening day.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Dutch striker

HELSINKI, May 15. (Reuters): Finland hope they may have found the man to contain Dutch striker Marco van Basten in their World Cup soccer clash on May 31. Manager Jukka Vakkila indicated the job of marking the free-scoring Van Basten might fall to stopper Ari Heikkinen who has played just six full internationals.

England players

LONDON, May 15. (Reuters): England cleared the way today for its rugby union players to accept invitations to tour South Africa in a world team — but said it would not encourage them to go.

Soviets triumph

ANKARA, Turkey, May 15. (AP): The Soviet Union took the team championship with 90 points in the European Freestyle Wrestling Tournament yesterday, winning five gold, two silver and one bronze medals. Turkey placed second with 85 points and one gold, five silver and three bronze medals.

Cycling race

GENEVA, May 15. (AP): Australian racer Phil Anderson won the Tour de Romandie road cycling race yesterday, defending a lead of more than one minute in the easy last leg of the six-day chase through western Switzerland.

Judo tourney

HELSINKI, May 15. (Reuters): In one of the most extraordinary results in the history of the European Judo Championships, Finland, who had never taken a title before, won three gold medals yesterday. Lightweight Jorma Korhonen, Jukka Salonen in the open category and women's featherweight Jaana Ronkainen thrilled the home crowd.

Strict measures

PRAGUE, May 15. (UPI): The Czechoslovakian Physical Training Association adopted strict anti-doping measures as outlined by the International Olympic Committee, IOK, the official news agency, reported.

Cycling tour

PALAZUELOS DEL ERESMA, Spain, May 15. (AP): Alberto Camargo of Colombia won the next-to-last leg of the 44th cycling Tour of Spain yesterday, while Pedro Delgado of Spain virtually clinched the grueling 32-day race by increasing his overall lead.

Sunday Silence

BALTIMORE, May 15. (AP): Kentucky Derby winner Sunday Silence was expected to resume training today after suffering a bruised right front quarter, trainer Charlie Whittingham said yesterday.

Wrong interpretation

SYDNEY, May 15. (Reuters): Modern pentathlete Alex Watson was wrong to interpret the lifting of a life ban for a drug offence at the Seoul Olympics as meaning his national federation supported his claim he was innocent, an official said today.

Monaco win

MONTE CARLO, May 15. (Reuters): Monaco completed a 4-1 victory over Bulgaria when they won both reverse singles in their Davis Cup European Zone Group Two quarterfinal yesterday.

Liverpool face four matches in 10 days

West Ham may be without Ince



Paul Ince

LONDON, May 15. (Reuters): Liverpool football club are known for their strength, which is just as well as they face a finale to the English soccer season that will place an enormous burden on their physical and mental stamina.

After the period of mourning for 95 who died in the Hillsborough disaster a month ago, Liverpool must play their last three First Division games and the FA Cup final in the next 10 days.

The League and Cup double is there for the taking, assuming, of course, they remain sound of limb and mentally tough.

Their three League games, starting with Queen's Park Rangers tomorrow, are all at home and if they beat either Rangers or West Ham in week's time and title-rivals Arsenal on May 26, they will secure an unequalled 18th League championship.

Between the Rangers and West Ham games, Liverpool play Everton in what will be the most emotionally-charged FA Cup final since 1958.

That final ago saw a Manchester United side rebuilt after an air crash three months earlier in which eight of their players perished fail valiantly to beat Bolton Wanderers.

Next Saturday's final will be a memorial of a sort to those who died at Hillsborough watching Liverpool's Cup semifinal against Nottingham Forest.

That Liverpool's final opponents will be Everton, their close neighbours who were deeply affected by the events at Hillsborough, will add piquancy to the occasion.

An injury to defender Steve Staunton against Wimbledon on Saturday is the sort of wear and tear Liverpool can expect. He had three stitches in his forehead after a clash with striker John Fastanu but is expected to be fit to play against Queen's Park Rangers.

Liverpool's win over Wimbledon was their third in a row. They have not been beaten now since New Year's Day, a run of 21 matches of which they have won 18.

Apart from facing Liverpool on May 26, Arsenal's one remaining League engagement is a home match against Wimbledon on Wednesday, a game they must win to sustain their title ambitions. They lead Liverpool by two points but have played a game more.

For the Wimbledon match, Arsenal Manager George Graham must decide whether to keep Paul Merson in the side as Alan Smith's striking partner, or recall Perry Groves or Martin Hayes.

At the bottom of the First Division, London side West Ham still have hopes of staying off relegation by winning their last two League games. But it is still a tall order with both games away from home and against up-market opposition, Nottingham Forest on Thursday and Liverpool on May 25.

They may have to do without young England midfielder Paul Ince, who damaged his foot in the 3-1 defeat at Everton on Saturday. He is rated doubtful for Thursday's game. Defeat at Forest would relegate West Ham after an eight year spell in the First Division.

Benfica triumph

LISBON, May 15. (Reuters): Benfica, crowned Portuguese League champions last week, celebrated in style yesterday with a 2-0 win at city rivals Sporting Lisbon.

First-half goals from Brazil's Valdo and Angolan import Afonso Abel gave Benfica their victory, helped by Sporting goalkeeper Jorge Vital who fumbled both the long-range efforts.

Second-placed Porto, last season's champions, drew 2-2 at Estrela Amadora.

Jefferies and Gooch shine

Essex keep top spot

LONDON, May 15. (Reuters): Essex stayed top of English Sunday League cricket with a thrilling last ball victory over Hampshire at Chelmsford.

They clinched a three-wicket win when Alan Lilley pushed Steve Jefferies' final ball into the covers and scampered a single.

Jefferies had bowled superbly to keep Hampshire in the game after they had been restricted to a modest 156 for nine. He finished with four for 39.

While England opener Graham Gooch was at the crease, Essex seemed set for a comfortable win. But once he was bowled by Paul-Jan Bakker for 63, made from 75 deliveries, panic set in.

Earlier, David Turner gave the Hampshire innings some momentum after they had taken 25 overs to raise the 50. He struck seven fours and a six from 82 deliveries before being caught on the long-off boundary for 66.

Standings

English Sunday League cricket table after the latest round of matches (tabulate under played, won, lost, tied, no result, points):



Graham Gooch

Lancashire	4	3	0	0	14
Middlesex	4	3	1	0	0
Surrey	4	2	2	0	0
Hampshire	4	2	2	0	0
Kent	4	3	2	0	0
Derbyshire	4	1	2	0	0
Northants	2	1	0	1	6
Leicestershire	3	1	1	0	1
Gloucestershire	3	1	2	0	0
Glamorgan	3	0	2	0	0
Warwickshire	2	0	1	0	1
Somerset	2	0	1	0	1
Sussex	3	0	2	0	0
Nottinghamshire	2	0	1	0	1
Worcestershire	2	0	1	0	1

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